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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Do you believe the federal government should step in and help resolve the crisis surrounding CUC?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Status Change

The Federal Reserve said it had granted a request by the country's last two major investment banks to change their status to bank holding companies.

BUSINESS...Page 14

60th Emmy

The sleek '60s drama "Mad Men" made Emmy history Sunday as the first basic-cable show to win a top series award.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 18

Saipan hosts 2-day restorative justice conference. **PAGE 2**

9 outage hours since generators were turned on. **PAGE 3**

Saipan women walk 60 miles for breast cancer research

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pam Brown hugs Bobbi Grizzard after the closing ceremonies at Seattle's Breast Cancer 3-day. Corinne Loprinzi is at left.

By KRISTI EATON
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REPORTER

Bobbi Grizzard, a 19-year breast cancer survivor, braved blisters, calluses and painful toes to complete the 60-mile Breast Cancer 3-day in Seattle last week.

"We walked 20 miles a day for three days," Grizzard said. "It's hard while you're doing it, yet very fulfilling. It's a really great event to be a part of."

Marian Aldan-Pierce, Clarie Kosack, Pamela Brown, Roberta Guerrero,

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DPL says new Rota Resort's owners may be 'trespassing'

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

BLUE MANAGAHA

Children frolic on the turquoise-blue waters of Managaha after attending the commemoration of the 39th Annual Chief Aghurubw festivities during the weekend. Managaha Island is located in the lagoon off Tanapag and is considered one of the premier tourist spots on Saipan.

By Stefan Sebastian
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BUSINESS EDITOR

The new owners of the Rota Resort & Country Club might be trespassing on public lands after failing to obtain approval from local authorities for their purchase of the 600-acre complex last month and could be forced to shut down or face a lawsuit.

See DPL on Page 4

Shell drops prices—again

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
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BUSINESS EDITOR

Prices at Shell gas stations in the CNMI fell for the third time in less than a month Monday night while the price of crude oil saw a minor jump due to news of the federal government's plans to bail out struggling American financial institutions.

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NEW SHELL PRICES

REGULAR		PREMIUM	
Self Service	$4.27	Self Service	$4.44
Full Service	$4.40	Full Service	$4.56

DIESEL $5.04

Korea-Rota charter flights planned

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
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BUSINESS EDITOR

Rota could see a major jump in Korean visitors next year with a resort there and a local airline poised to launch chartered air service soon to the island from Korea, a move that could jumpstart Rota's struggling tourism industry.

In an interview Monday, Rota Sen. Paul Manglona (R) said that Rota

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Local

Saipan hosts 2-day restorative justice conference

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The executive director for the Washington D.C.-based Prison Fellowship International's Centre for Justice and Reconciliation is on Saipan, holding a two-day restorative justice conference.

Lawyer Daniel Van Ness of the Prison Fellowship International discussed about restorative justice during yesterday's kickoff of the two-day training at the Saipan Grand Hotel's Seaside Hall.

Over 40 participants, mostly pastors from Saipan, Guam, Palau, and Federated States of Micronesia, participated in the conference.

Restorative justice is a new movement in the fields of victimology and criminology.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Ness said restorative justice is an approach to crime that says it is not just about breaking the law; it is also about causing harm to victims and communities.

Ness said people should not just hold offenders accountable by punishing them but also requiring them to repair the harm that they've done in some way.

"That could be done through an apology, to be done through paying restitution or giving the money or the property back," he said.

The executive director said that one of the ways restorative justice does this is by inviting the victim and the offender to a meeting, with a facilitator.

"They can talk about what happened, what the experience was. And that's when the victim can ask questions [like] why did you choose my house to break into…why did you take from my car…that kind of thing," he said.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Dan Van Ness, executive director of the Center for Justice and Reconciliation at Prison Fellowship International, delivers his presentation during the First Micronesia Restorative Justice Conference at Saipan Grand Hotel yesterday.

Restorative justice, Ness pointed out, has probably been used on Saipan for years and years because of customary responses to crimes.

Around the world, he noted, criminal justice systems are incorporating parts of the restorative justice programs or approaches.

The United Nations, Ness said, is encouraging countries to have guidelines on how to blend restorative justice with their criminal justice systems.

"And the advantage is, it is better for the victims. Victims are happy with the process and more satisfied that justice has been done. It also changes the behavior of the offenders," he said.

The likelihood that offenders will commit new crimes in the future is lower if they've gone through the restorative justice system than if they gone through the regular criminal justice system, Ness said.

"It is faster and costs less money and brings more cases to justice. So there's some benefit from a public policy standpoint," he added.

Bob Dames, Prison Fellowship International Regional Service Team Member for Pacific Micronesia, said this is the first restorative justice conference given by the Prison Fellowship International in Micronesia.

"What we are trying to do is we're trying to bring training into a particular area to better focus upon leadership training for those in different nations to participate in a more large scale," said Dames, who is based in Guam.

Dames said their focus was really upon Christian leadership within their countries and inviting participants to have a better understanding of restorative justice and what that means and how that can be translated into practical applications to their countries.

There are 113 countries around the world that are affiliated with Prison Fellowship International as national ministry organizations.

Femie Rey, president of Prison Fellowship-CNMI, said the pastors on the island have really showed interest in learning restorative justice because it will help them as they minister to their people here.

The Prison Fellowship-CNMI has been organized since 2001.

"We have that kind of ministry here. We are dealing not only with prisoners but their families as well," Rey said.

It is also a sort of crime prevention, she said, adding that they have an ongoing program by visiting prisoners at the Department of Corrections where they talk to them and conduct Bible studies.

"We talk about crimes, and we talk about biblical values, and moral values," Rey said.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

MARIANA TRENCH monument
The deepest, darkest place on earth

for the Week of September 22, 2008

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
6:00pm	6:00pm	6:00pm
Concept Overview	Concept Overview	Economic Study

Presentations are open to the public and anyone interested in learning more is invited to attend.
No reservations required.
We are located at the JT Guerrero building in Garapan next to Asia Scooter Rentals.
This schedule will rotate weekly and presentations will be added.
Schedules will be noticed weekly on Tuesdays.
Private presentations are available upon request – please give us a call!
If you need more information please call us at 234-2665.

Newborn Hearing Screening
Did you know that …
Every baby born in the CNMI receives a hearing screening before leaving the hospital?
Ask if your baby passed the test. Babies learn to talk from what they hear… if your baby needs follow up, schedule your appointment right way.
Follow-up testing is FREE!
Call 236-8709
Printing funded by the Cooperative Agreement for Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Tracking, Surveillance, and Integration.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
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Division of Public Health
WIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Have you been waiting for a call from the WIC Program, but your phone number has changed? There is no longer a wait list at the WIC Clinic, so we ask that you please call us at 236-8750, 236-8757, or 236-8758 to give us your current contact information so we may schedule your appointment immediately.

The WIC Clinic will be closed from September 29 – October 10, 2008 due to staff training, except for newborn infants who need to be certified. Therefore, we are requesting that participants with food instruments (FI) that start on October 1, 2008 bring them in to the WIC Clinic prior to its closure, as our automated system will be generating new checks that start on October 14, 2008. For those who need to pick up food instruments that start from October 1- October 10, 2008 please call the above numbers starting October 14, 2008 to schedule a pick up date and time.

All Nutrition Education (NE) appointments for October 2, 2008 will be rescheduled to October 22, 2008 and those with appointments on October 9, 2008 will be rescheduled to October 24, 2008. Please note that the appointment times will not change.

We ask for the public's patience and understanding during this time of exciting progress in the WIC Program. Not only will we be transitioning from a manual system to a fully automated database system, but we will be preparing to move into the newly built WIC Clinic in Upper Navy Hill. Maps to the new location are available at the current WIC Clinic.

To the People of Rota: Please call the above numbers to register the necessary information for pre-certification, and for us to schedule your appointment on Rota.

Please visit our website at www.cnmiwic.org to learn more about the CNMI WIC Program.

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Joseph Kevin P. Villagomez
Secretary, Department of Public Health

Josephine K. Tudela
Director, CNMI WIC Program

About 1,000 people sign CUC petition

By KRISTI EATON
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REPORTER

Approximately 1,000 people have signed a petition seeking federal intervention into the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Several hundred people signed the petition at last week's CUC rally held at the Garapan Fishing base, said Ed Propst, one of the organizers of the rally and petition.

The petition requests President Bush to declare a federal state of emergency of CUC; CUC be placed in a federal court-appointed receivership until utilities are restored and the financial condition stabilized; and for the U.S. Department of Justice to conduct an audit of CUC.

On Saturday approximately 100 people signed the petition outside a local market, said Rep. Tina Sablan, another organizer.

"It went really well. We were there for a few hours," she said.

Some people requested to take petitions with them so they could collect their own signatures, she added.

The group has also collected testimonials from a wide range of citizens, Propst said.

"It really varied," Propst said of the testimonials. "We have some *man'amko* to little kids. It was all ages in between. There were some that were very sad, and it just goes to show how bad some people are suffering from these outrageous rates we're forced to pay."

A copy of the petition will be given to Office of Insular Affairs director Nik Pula who is on island this week, Sablan said. The group will also send President Bush and the U.S. Congress the petition at a later date.

Until then, Propst said they are still gathering signatures and plan to hold another rally in the near future. The rally, which will be held at a new location, might also feature a forum, he added.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ
Protesters sign a petition calling on the US government to step in and resolve the power crisis on Saipan during a protest rally held Sept. 17 at the Garapan Fishing Base.

Nine hours of outages since generators were turned on

In the approximately 240 hours that have elapsed since Sept. 12, the date the Aggreko generators were turned on, there have been more than nine hours of power interruptions, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. announced yesterday.

The 9 hours 12 minutes of outages account for approximately 3.8 percent of the 240 hours.

Although CUC has not had to load shed since the generators were turned on, four unexpected outages have occurred at the Aggreko plant as adjustments are made. The four outages totaled 3 hours 45 minutes, according to CUC.

Also, the CUC Power Division Line crew requested emergency power interruptions to address failing hardware, perform emergency line clearing and address uncontrollable circumstances, such as lighting, that affected the system. Friday morning a lightning struck a power pole in Marpi, tripping feeders 4 and 7, Gary Camacho, Power Division manager, said. The field interruption time was 2 hours 35 minutes.

Power Plant 1 experienced two outages since the integration of the Aggreko generators. In one case, mechanical problems on engine 6 caused an outage. Engine 8 also experienced mechanical problems causing an outage. Altogether, the engines were down for 2 hours 52 minutes, according to CUC.

The Aggreko generators were turned on Sept. 12, adding 13 megawatts of power to the island. Two more generators with two megawatts are expected to arrive soon.

Under the $6-million contract, CUC paid Aggreko $1.5 million to ship the generators, and they must pay an additional $504,000 in about three weeks. ***(Kristi Eaton)***

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

PTI would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on September 23rd, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before September 23rd.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION PTI CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE*.

Per an earlier announcement, PTI is no longer mailing out past due notices as of 11/01/06.

* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than September 23rd. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service please call Customer Service at **682-4PTI (4784)** or visit our Customer Service Representatives at our Chalan Lau-Lau Office.

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PAWS CORNER

Puppies, dogs up for adoption

Once again, PAWS has some great animals up for adoption. If you or someone you know is interested in adopting or fostering an animal, contact PAWS at 285-PAWS or visit the PAWS website at www.paws-saipan.org or www.paws-saipan.blogspot.com.

PUPPIES

Brother and Sister Combo:

Two puppies are up for adoption—a boy and a girl. The puppies are thought to be about two months old. The rescue family has not administered vaccinations, so they will need to visit one of the island's veterinarians at Paradise Island Animal Hospital (234-9669) or the Department of Land and Natural Resources (234-6169). These two pups are very friendly and great with children. If you are interested in adopting or fostering one or both of these two loveable pups, contact Sophie at sophieschatje@yahoo.com.

Solo Female:

One adorable brown female pup. "She's adorable, *loves* kids and people, is energetic, snugly, sweet, fuzzy," said the pup's rescue home. She is about seven weeks old. If you are interested in adopting this little female, contact Nicolette at vidalseckeler@gmail.com or 322-0200.

ADULT DOGS

Apollo:

This is a great family dog that is house trained, and has received his vaccinations and de-worming. He loves company and enjoys being around children and other dogs, including cats. If you are looking for a companion, contact Marie at mdcowden@gmail.com or PAWS at 285-PAWS.

Choco:

PAWS is looking for families that are willing and able to foster homeless animals, like Choco, who was abandoned by her owners when they left island. Choco is a brown female, thought to be about one year old and very sweet. Choco's older brother is also in need of a new home—temporary or permanent. His name is Blackie. He is very sweet and loves to greet people by jumping up and rolling over for a petting.

If you are interested in fostering Choco or Blackie, contact PAWS at 285-PAWS to discuss foster obligations and opportunities. Alternatively, you may contact the rescuers, Mark and Patti, at 322-6676. ***(PAWS)***

Court sets guidelines for Miura coverage

In anticipation of a possible media frenzy surrounding today's hearing in the case of Japanese businessman Kazuyoshi Miura, the CNMI Supreme Court issued yesterday basic rules of conduct for news personnel attending the hearing.

The guidelines include a ban on cameras of any kind—still or video—or voice recorders inside the courtroom. Interviews and photographs will only be allowed outside the courtroom.

RELATED NEWS
'Justices must protect Miura from LAPD tactics'
PAGE 6

The hearing will begin at 2pm.

The Supreme Court said it would be enforcing a maximum capacity policy. Those wishing to attend the hearing are asked to be seated prior to 2pm and to remain seated for the duration of the hearing. ***(PR)***

KOREA

From Page 1

Resort and Freedom Air are preparing to unveil a promotional campaign in Korea Sept. 24 in partnership with travel agents there, advertising Rota as a prime destination for Korean tourists, who now represent a mere handful of the tourists that visit the island each year.

The kickoff comes ahead of the planned launch of a chartered air service deal, set begin in early 2009, Manglona said, adding the deal could attract up to 6,000 Korean visitors to Rota.

"This is really a milestone because if we're successful with this one, it could translate into regular, direct flights from Korean also," he said. "We hope to fill up our hotel rooms with travelers from Korea and that way they can come and play at the golf course and enjoy what Rota has to offer."

Direct flight service, Manglona noted, is key for Rota's tourism industry because travelers to Guam and the CNMI rarely spend the extra money needed to travel from the islands to Rota. The promotional campaign could see the inclusion of Rota in the package travel deals Korean travel agents sell, he said.

"Usually, when tourists are on Guam or Saipan, they don't take that option to come to Rota because it's expensive and it's sometimes a last-moment thing," he said. "But if you include them in Korean package deals, more people might take that option."

News of the flights comes as local officials are eying the renewal of a similar deal inked with a tour company and Continental Airlines that brought chartered air service to Rota from Japan.

Henry S. Atalig, chief of the CNMI Department of Commerce's branch on Rota, last week said those flights have bolstered the island's economy and increased tourism by 10 percent and a renewal of the deal appears likely.

The flights hold the potential to help revive Rota's suffering tourism economy. According to Marianas Visitors Authority statistics, visitor arrivals on the island in July of this year alone were down 43 percent.

Staff with Rota Resort and Freedom Air did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

DPL

From Page 1

The CNMI Attorney General's Office, in a letter sent to the Rota Resort's new owners yesterday, points to a recent report in the *Saipan Tribune* published earlier this month detailing the resort's sale and warns that any change in ownership requires approval from the Department of Public Lands, which the new proprietors have yet to gain.

JMSH LLC announced in an August news release that it had purchased the Rota Resort, prompting the *Pacific Daily News* in Guam to print a short item on the sale that can still be viewed on the newspaper's Web site. The *Saipan Tribune* later published a Sept. 13 story on the new owners' plans to draw tourists to Rota.

Rota Resort LLC, a branch of JMSH LLC, is now operating the resort, the company's management has previously said. If the news reports on the sale are accurate, the AG's office says, the resort's new owners are trespassing and must leave.

"If the Rota Resort LLC has purchased the Rota Resort without an accompanying approval by the Department of Public Lands, you are hereby notified that you are trespassing," the letter says. "You are to immediately cease all business operations and vacate the premises as you have no authority to operate on public land. Failure to comply will result in litigation."

The letter adds that the Department of Public Lands knew about a proposal to sell the property but has no notice of a sale.

"The Commonwealth Department of Public Lands is aware of *a proposal* to transfer the ownership of the Rota Resort, but takes a dim view of persons acting without approval. We demand a response to this letter within ten days," it says.

Chief of Rota Resort LLC, Hee K. Cho, has already confirmed the sale in a tape recorded Sept. 12 telephone interview, saying the company "closed the escrow" on a deal to purchase it last month for a confidential sum.

"Escrow was closed about a month ago," he said, adding that he invested $1.1 million into the resort before finalizing the deal to revive its struggling operation. "Even before the close of the escrow, I jumped in with the management because the former owner lacked the funds to operate."

Cho did not immediately respond to requests for comment Monday.

Meanwhile, Rota Resort LLC has a host of plans for boosting tourism to the CNMI, including renovations to its hotel in order to attract more honeymooners and deals to increase chartered airline service to the island.

SHELL

From Page 1

In a statement, Eloy Lizama, president of Shell Marianas, said that Shell's overhead costs had declined since the company's last price drop Sept. 12 and that a further adjustment Monday night would lower prices again by 10 cents for regular and premium gasoline and 15 cents for diesel. The price change, he added, would take effect at midnight.

With the price changes, the cost of regular, self-served gas at Shell stations comes to $4.27 per gallon based on the previous prices. The price for regular gas with full service falls to $4.40 cents. Premium gas prices drop to $4.44 cents per gallon for self-service, $4.56 per gallon with full service, and diesel prices fall to $5.04 cents.

Shell's price correction comes as the price of oil in the world market is holding at $104 per barrel, according to the New York Mercantile Exchange, after analysts noted that optimism on Wall Street in response to President Bush's plans to bail out America's suffering financial institutions prompted a short-lived price jump to more than $105 per barrel.

Meanwhile, the CNMI's gas prices are still far above the national average. AAA reports the average price for a gallon of regular gasoline nationwide is $3.73, a major increase over the price seen one year ago, $2.81.

SAIPAN

From Page 1

Corinne Loprinzi, Rebecca Pierce, Rhoda Smith and Kazuyo Tojo made up the other members of the team, called Saipan Sweet Feet. Except for Grizzard and Brown, all the women are still in the U.S. mainland.

The team raised more than $30,000 for breast cancer research, with each member raising a minimum of $2,200 to participate in the event, Grizzard said. By herself, Grizzard said she was able to raise more than $6,000 through small donations of $20 to $50.

This was Grizzard's second time to participate in the Breast Cancer 3-day. She first participated last year in Phoenix. Because Pierce has a home in Seattle, the group decided to take part in that city's event, which was held Sept. 12-14.

The walk took the women through many parts of Seattle, including the downtown area and Pike's Peak.

Each day the women would walk for about 10 hours, stopping to munch on fruit, peanuts and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches before continuing on. During their lunch break, they would take off their shoes and socks and "let their feet breath," Grizzard said.

She added that all the women had foot issues at one time or another.

"I had one toe hurting pretty bad," she said. "I had one blister last year. But it's OK. You live through it."

Guerrero had to be taken to a medical tent and was "red carded," meaning she was told she could not walk and had to take a bus back to the tent site. But it didn't matter, Grizzard said, because Guerrero was still able to cheer others on.

"She greeted everyone," Grizzard said. "She probably met more people than we met by walking."

Grizzard said the group did stand out in one way. Many people came up to them asking why Saipan was written on their shirts

"People are now googling Saipan," she said. "So we're sort of ambassadors."

The women chose not to spend the nights in tents, instead allowing themselves the comforts of a nearby hotel. There they were able to soak their feet in ice water and rest up for the next day.

"All you want to do is go back to your room, soak your feet, eat, have some wine, and go to bed," she said.

Gearing up for the event was a task in and of itself, Grizzard said. She began walking in January, slowly extending her distance a little each week. The Komen organization gives recommendations to walkers, but Grizzard said she didn't follow the schedule. But because she walks on a daily basis, she was prepared. In fact, she's already planning for next year's walk.

Grizzard, Kosack and Tojo wore pink shirts, signifying them as cancer survivors. Grizzard said she is amazed by the advancement in technology since her mastectomy in 1989.

"In the 19 years since I was diagnosed, the advancements made are absolutely amazing," she said. "I'm constantly blown away by the things that are available today."

The Seattle walk raised $8.5 million. Fourteen cities have hosted or are hosting walks this year.

Enrollment deadline for group life insurance nears

By AGNES E. DONATO
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REPORTER

Government employees and retirees were reminded yesterday of the nearing deadline for enrollment to the government group life insurance program.

Moylan's Insurance Underwriters, the new administrator of the program, issued notice that the enrollment period will end on Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2008.

"[This] means if you have yet to complete your enrollment application, then you will lose your government group life insurance coverage on Oct. 1, 2008," said Bobby A. Shringi of Moylan's Insurance.

Moylan's Insurance, the general agent for NetCare Life and Health Insurance, was awarded the contract to administration the CNMI government's group life insurance program on July 1, 2008. Since then, Moylan's Insurance agents have been visiting government agencies to meet with active employees and retirees to allow them to sign up, update their personal information, and confirm their beneficiaries.

But Shringi said hundreds of employees still have not completed their applications. "Keep in mind that although enrolling is not mandatory, completing the forms is if you plan on maintaining your coverage," he said.

Shringi also pointed to misinformation that he said has been spreading about the life insurance program. One example, he said, is that coverage automatically rolls over without any documentation. Another common confusion is that personal insurance programs are being affected during the enrollment period. Shringi said this was not true, and he urged employees to refrain from amending their payroll allotments. The only change, he said, is on the group basic and dependent life coverage, which is indicated on the check stub as "Life Basic and DepCov."

"The benefits of the government group life insurance program are mirrored with the benefits you have enjoyed for many years. It is also relatively inexpensive and during the enrollment period, no medical underwriting requirements are needed," Shringi said.

Moylan's Insurance and NetCare took over from Individual Assurance Company as the carrier of the Fund's life insurance program. IAC's three-year contract expired in June 2008.

Senate overrides governor's veto on CUC's privatization

By AGNES E. DONATO
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REPORTER

The Senate has voted to override the governor's veto of a bill requiring the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to sell its power system to the highest bidder.

Eight of the nine members supported the override, easily meeting the two-thirds threshold needed to pass the measure over the governor's objections. Sen. Luis Crisostimo abstained.

Senate President Pete P. Reyes said the override, which took place during a session on Rota last week, was "one of the least debated actions taken by the Senate." He said the Senate members agreed the privatization of the power system should be done through a bid process.

"The members are very concerned that the privatization contract might be sole-sourced. We want to prevent this from happening especially because a contract like that has many long-term ramifications," Reyes said.

The House of Representatives is expected to consider the veto on Thursday, Sept. 25, 2008. If the House votes to override, the bill will become law.

Press secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr. reiterated the administration's opposition to the bill. "If passed into law, this bill would be very damaging to CUC. It would undermine any privatization efforts," he said.

Reyes pointed to the $250-million price tag proposed for the power system, saying it was excessive and could discourage potential bidders.

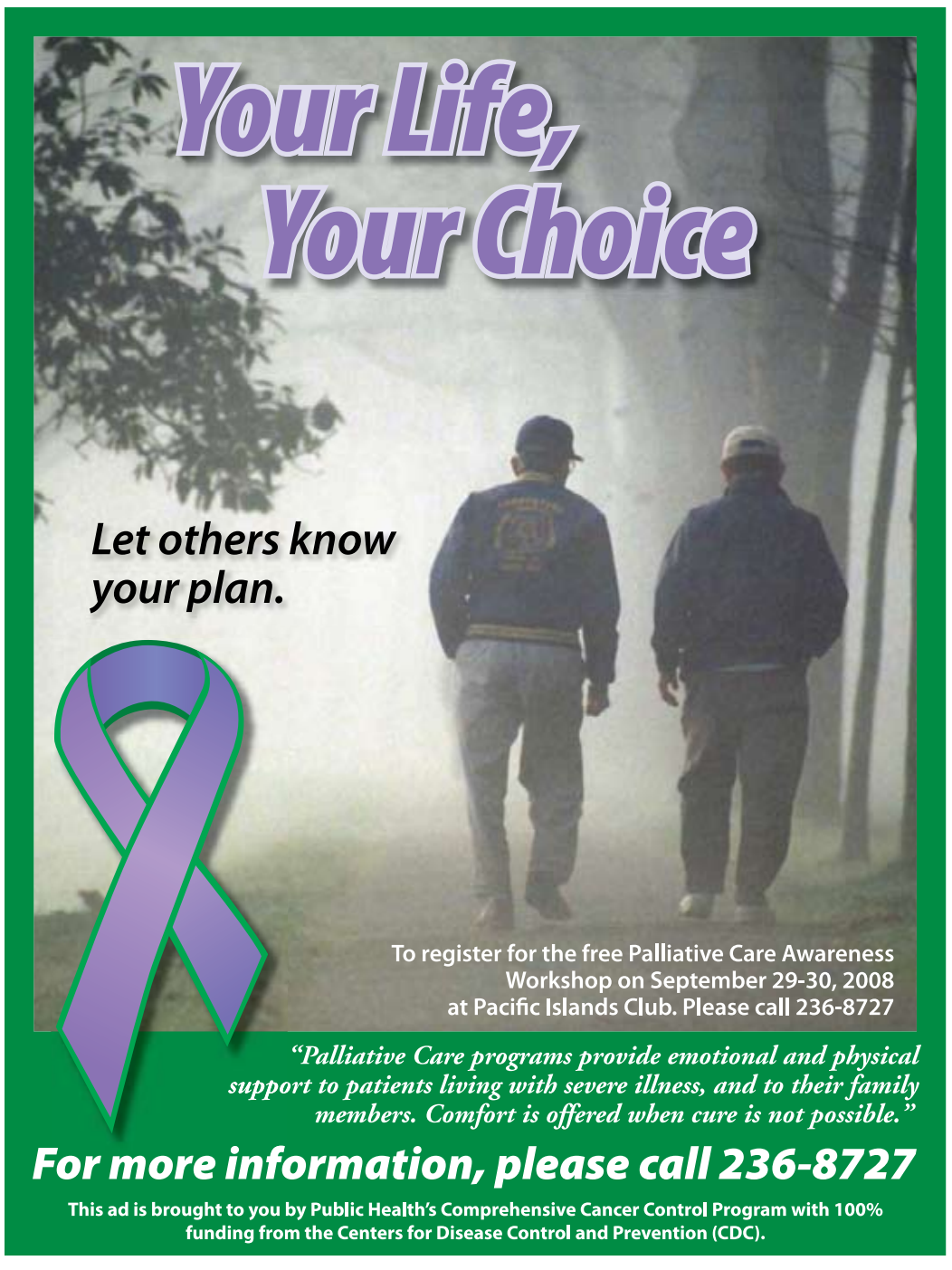
The bill would mandate CUC to sell its power system for at least $250 million through a bid process. It also proposes to restore the CUC board of directors, which Gov. Benigno R. Fitial abolished in 2006.

In his veto message to the Legislature, Fitial listed deficiencies in the bill that he said would increase CUC's costs or would push the rates further up.

Factoring in the $250-million price tag for the power system and CUC's current monthly sales of 20 million kWh, and assuming a 10 percent return on investment and recovery of principal over a period of 40 years, the power rate could increase by 10 cents per kWh, Fitial said.

Among the other issues Fitial raised is the requirement for any contractor operating the plant to have five years experience in compliance with emission standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He said this may preclude international companies who have experience with power plant operations and capable of compliance, but not having five years experience, from bidding.

"While I commend the Legislature for its continued efforts to resolve the power crisis of the Commonwealth, the legislation as passed presents many deficiencies," Fitial said. "I encourage the Legislature to work with CUC to develop this measure further to achieve successfully its intended purpose."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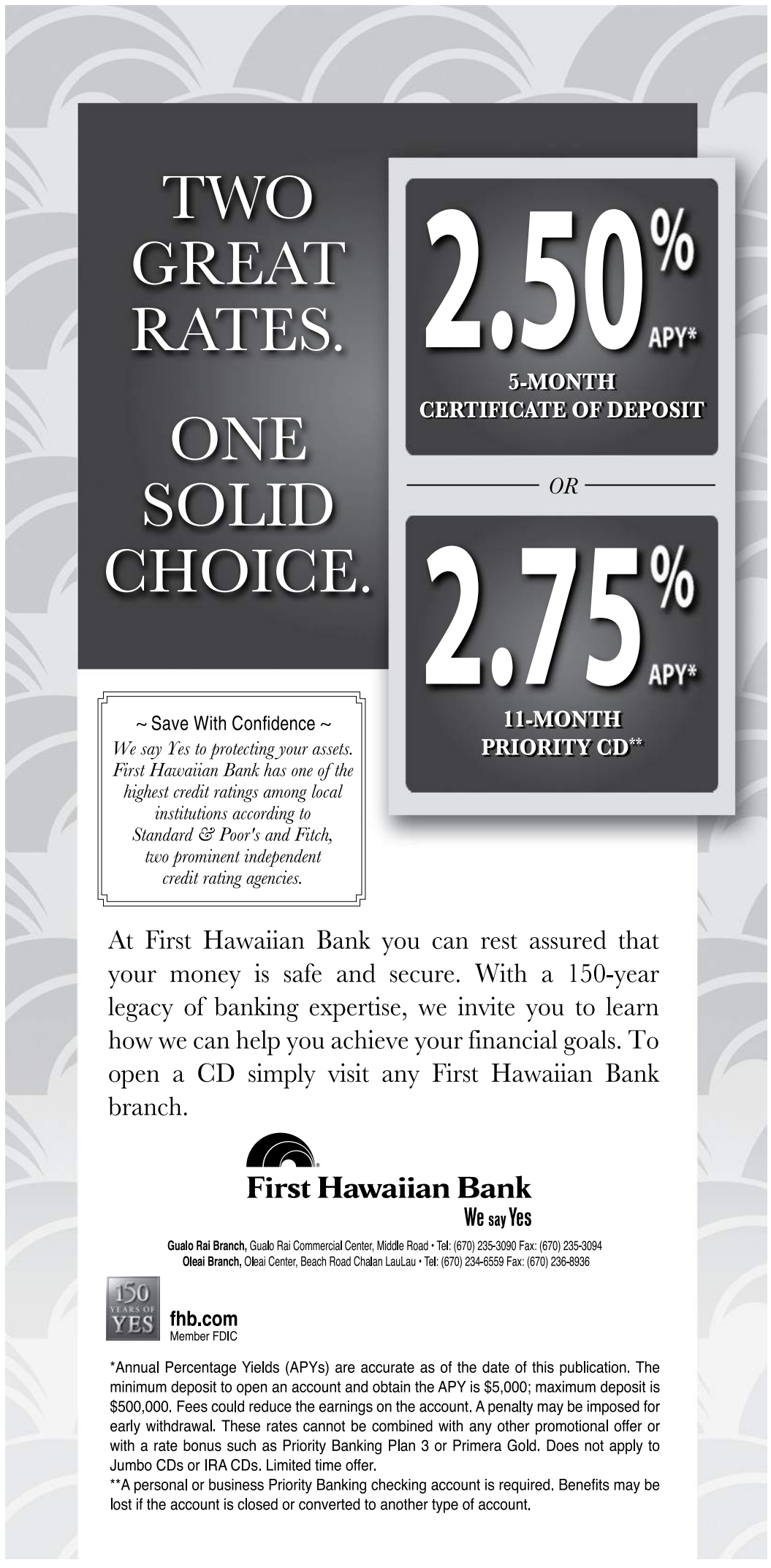
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Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana
Ofisinan I Gubietno
Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

NOTISIA POT MAPROPOPONE NA ATKILONTANO PUBLIKO

Segun gi lai 15-2, I Depattamenton Tano ha anununsia planon atkilon tano publiko giya Saipan, Commonwealth i Sankattan siha na Islas. Todo man-interesao libre munahalom opinion `sino infotmasion pot imapropopone na plano nuson tano publiko. Maprebeniye lokue isigiente siha na infotmasion para benefision publiko tat komo:

i. I tineteka na tano publiko madeskribe komo 003 A 11 (49,450 metro kuatdrao), 003 A 20 (49,503 metro kuatdrao), yan 003 A 19 (10,000 metro kuatdrao) maso sino menos nigaige giya Magpi, Saipan. Kopian lugat este siha nasitiu gaige gi Depattamenton Tano ni libre maina nu I publiku.

ii. I para u inatkilai Flame Sako Resort yan Spa un kotporasion guine giya Marianas. I membron direktot siha isigiente: Kang Dae Sik, Joon Sung Jung yan Woon Hwa Chung.

I Presidenten I kompania si Kang Dae Sik; Chun Sik Min, Segundo Presidente.

iii. I para u atkila ilugat para u usa gimahatsan fasilidat hotel yan otro siha na fasilidat.

I tetminonestena kontrata para 25 años ya siña ma-ekstende talo 15 años.

I mapropopone na atkilon manegosio as Señot Young Woo Lee.

iv. Libre hao mamaisen kopianestena plano gi Depattamenton Tano ni gaige gi segundo bibienda gi Joeten Dandan, Saipan; offisinanTano Publiko giya Luta yan Tinian.

v. I Depattamenton Tano ta ya otro plano ha resibe gi uson este siha na propiadat publiko giya Magpi, Saipan.

vi. I Sekretarion Depattamenton Tano Publiko siña ha resibe todo ninahalom opinion yan materiat pot este na proposito uttimo gi Oktubre 3, 2008 todo Offisinan Tano Publiku giya Saipan, Tinian yan Luta.

ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap ekke atotoowow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúwasch Marianas. Schóók-ka eyoor máfiyeer rebwe isisilong ischil mángámangiir, aweewe, aingiingil reel pomwol akkilonul ammwelil falúweer toulap. Me bwal Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, e ayoora, lamal aweewe kka rebwe mweiti ngali milikka ebwe akkatééló.

i. Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap ekke bwáári Lot No. 003 A 11, eyoor faigh me tiwow sangaras fabwughuw limeigh me tiwow llapal (49,459 square meters), elap me ngáre eghús, Lot No. 003 A 19, faigh me tiwoow sangaras, lima bwughuw elluw (49,503) sq. meters llapal, elap me ngare eghuus, me Lot No. 003 A 20,, seigh sangaras (10,000) sq. meters, llapal, elap me eghus, elo Máschepi, Seipél. Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor llól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ngare óubwe ghuley fischiy.

ii. Schéschéél schóól akkilon nge Flame Sako Corporation. Schóól Assamwoolul mwiisch (board of directors) mellol corporation nge Dae Sik Kang me Chun Sik Min.

Samwoolul (President) corporation nge Dae Sik Kange. Vice President nge Chun Sik Min.

iii. Schóól akkilon ebwe yáayá bwuley ngali schagh akkayul hotel me akkaw iimw kka a fillong.

Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon ebwe ruweigh me limwoow ráágh (25 years), emmwel rebwe sóbweey ngáli bwal seigh me limwoow ráágh (15 years).

Pomwol akkilon ebwe mwir sángi llapal méél falúw (value of the property).

Schóól aweweel akkilon nge Young Woo Lee.

iv. Emmwel óubwe bwughil tilighial akkilon mellól bwulasiyool ammwelil falúweer toulap, elo aruwowal pwó(2nd floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llól Dandan, Seipél; aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) mellól Bank of Saipan Commercial Buiding, Luuta; me ngáre mmwal pwó (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.

v. Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo akkááw pomwol akkilon yeel me Máschepi, Seipél.

vi. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap ebwe bwughil aweewe kkaal, aingiingil, mereer amweyút aramas mmwal schagh Ottuubre (October) 3, 2008 mellól Depattamentool Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta me Tchúlúyól..

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot Nos. 003 A 11, 003 A 19, 003 A 20 containing areas of approximately 49,500 square meters, 10,000 square meters, and 49,503 square meters (respectively), more or less, situated in Marpi, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.

ii. The prospective lessee is Flame Sako Corporation, a CNMI corporation. The Board of Directors of the corporation are Dae Sik Kang, Joon Sung Jung, and Woon Hwa Chung.

The President corporation is Dae Sik Kang. The Vice President is Chun Sik Min.

iii. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of developing and operating a resort hotel and spa and related facilities.

The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property.

The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Young Woo Lee.

iv. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2nd floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

v. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Marpi, Saipan.

vi. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before October 3 , 2008 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

Slate complete for Youth Congress

The incoming CNMI Youth Congress is now complete with the election of a third representative from Northern Marianas College.

The House of Representatives yesterday certified Aesha De-Brum Sablan as the winner of the special election held at NMC last Friday.

Twenty-five NMC students came out for the tie-breaker election, giving Sablan 17 votes and her opponent, Vicky Jean Castro, seven votes. One vote has been declared invalid.

Sablan joins the 22 other youth politicians who were elected to the Youth Congress in the regular election conducted Monday, Sept. 15, 2008.

An inaugural Mass will be held for the youth senators-elect on Oct. 17, 2008, at St. Jude Parish. Then the new Youth Congress will be sworn into office on Oct. 18, 2008, at 10am at the House of Representatives' chamber on Capital Hill.

Youth Congress members serve a term of one year.

This year's election saw one of the lowest voters turnouts in the history of the Youth Congress. Less than one third of registered voters came out to cast their ballots.

The low turnout was noted in both the school and precinct levels. In the schools, 34 percent—844 out of 2,512—came out to vote. The precincts fared ever worse, with a turnout of 13 percent—131 out of 1,037 voters.

The Youth Congress, according to its enabling statute, was established "to provide a system that allows the youth to prepare to meet the challenges of the future and to make recommendations to the policy makers on youth programs."

The Youth Congress has three posts for Northern Marianas College, one for each participating public or private high school, and 10 for the election precincts. CNMI residents who are 14 to 20 years are eligible to participate in the Youth Congress. ***(Agnes E. Donato)***

'Justices must protect Miura from LAPD tactics'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Supreme Court must protect Kazuyoshi Miura from the Los Angeles Police Department's "subversive tactics" and prevent him from being taken to California while his appeal is pending, according to one of Miura's lawyers yesterday.

Miura

Attorney Mark B. Hanson said the State of California knows that if it could grab the 61-year-old Miura before a stay was issued, they would effectively deny both the Japanese businessman and the CNMI Supreme Court the opportunity to decide the issues now before it.

In Miura's 30-page opening brief filed before the high court, the lawyer said a well established case law explains why the LAPD hurriedly flew to Saipan last Sept. 15—just four days after Superior Court associate judge Ramona V. Manglona denied Miura's application for habeas corpus.

"As underhanded and subversive as it would have appeared, had the LAPD planned better and arrived on Saipan to spirit Mr. Miura out of the CNMI prior to the stay being issued, neither this court nor Mr. Miura could do anything about it," said Hanson, who, along with Bruce Berline and William Fitzgerald, are Miura's lawyers on Saipan.

Last Sept. 12, Manglona denied Miura's petition for habeas corpus and ordered his extradition to L.A. This prompted Miura's lawyers to file that day with the CNMI Supreme Court an emergency motion for a stay of extradition and removal, pending their appeal.

In the afternoon of Sept. 15, chief justice Miguel S. Demapan granted the stay request and set the arguments for today, Sept. 23, at 2pm. Hours later, four LAPD detectives arrived on Saipan, supposedly to pick up Miura. The stay ruling prevented this, prompting the detectives to leave the island.

In Miura's appeal brief, Hanson said if their client is taken to California—even if by force and in violation of CNMI law and the CNMI Constitution—the overwhelming and long standing case law holds that the Commonwealth is powerless to compel California to release and return Miura to the CNMI even if the appeal was not rendered moot and he were to prevail in his appeal.

Hanson said either Miura does not stand substantially charged with a crime in the State of California or the State of California's almost 20-year delay in seeking his extradition denies him the due process guaranteed him by the U.S. Constitution.

In either case, he pointed out, the State of California has no right to request Miura's rendition from the CNMI.

Hanson said Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's warrant on which Miura is currently being held is illegal and should be quashed and he should be released at once.

The lawyer said if Miura leaves the CNMI, any right he has to habeas corpus relief from CNMI courts would no longer be available to him because the CNMI courts would lose personal jurisdiction over him and any appeals would be moot.

Hanson said California itself is unsure whether it is actually precluded from even prosecuting Miura because of the applicability of California's statute, which grants him immunity from any further prosecution.

If the demanding state (California) is questioning the validity of its own process, he said, then certainly the CNMI high tribunal cannot say for certain that those document are sufficient to substantially charge Miura with a crime.

In the CNMI government's opposition to the appeal, acting chief prosecutor Jeffery L. Warfield Sr. said Miura is engaging in "semantical gymnastics" to argue that the affirmative defense of double jeopardy renders him not substantially charged.

Warfield said that Miura has conceded in California that he is substantially charged; he may not now argue the contrary in the Commonwealth.

The acting chief prosecutor said the appeal should be summarily denied and that the CNMI Supreme Court should make a finding that, in view of long established and well settled U.S. Supreme Court precedent, "there was absolutely no merit to his original application or this subsequent appeal so that petitioner is dissuaded from continuing this dilatory course through the federal courts."

Warfield said Miura has failed to raise a cognizable issue that is subject to review in a habeas corpus proceeding challenging extradition.

Petitioner, he said, does not contest the issues of identity, the sufficiency of the documents nor whether he was present in California when the crimes were committed and has since left the state.

Miura's sole contention, the acting chief prosecutor said, is that he is immune from prosecution based on a California double-jeopardy statute that is the subject of a matter currently pending before the California courts and which the CNMI high court is legally prohibited from reviewing.

Warfield said that Manglona made the proper and correct decision in denying the writ of habeas corpus.

Miura is currently being held at the Department of Corrections pursuant to an arrest warrant for extradition signed by Fitial on March 12, 2008, after receiving a request from California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Warfield conceded that if Miura had been extradited prior to his appeal being reviewed, he would have lost the ability to do so.

"However, in light of the fact that this [court] has already granted the stay request and accepted the appeal for hearing, it is the Commonwealth's position that this issue is now moot," he stressed.

Energy conservation saves PSS $90K

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System saved more than $90,000 in utility fees for the month of July by following conservation efforts.

PSS Commissioner Rita Sablan said school administrators have been making an effort to conserve energy not only to save money but also to help the island's environment.

"It's not just high bills; it's important we all practice energy conservation," Sablan said.

Schools are conserving energy by turning off air conditioners during certain times of the day, turning off lights, and making sure everything is turned off when teachers leave at the end of the day.

The practices saved the school 220,000-kilowatt hours, Sablan said. But that number was for the month of July when school was not in session, she added. The numbers will probably not be the same starting September.

Last week, Antonio Muña, Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director, said PSS owed $1.8 million in past debt. PSS in July paid CUC $1.6 million after Finance Secretary Eloy Inos became involved in the situation. The money came from the personnel budget and the "all others" budget category.

Sablan said there are some discrepancies between CUC"s meter reading and the readings done by PSS administrators. Sablan began talking to school principals in August about conducting their own site meter readings.

"We are concerned about the bills we get," she said. "We want to be able to pay what's due. We're hopeful something can come out it."

When asked if PSS would be able to pay the $1.8 million, Sablan last week said it is not realistic for the school system to pay that amount with their current budget constraints.

"It's just like any other family or business," she said. "The payment of CUC bills is a challenge."

The PSS operating cost for fiscal year 2008, from which the CUC money would come out of, is $2 million, she added.

Munson finds probable cause to charge alleged 'ice' dealer

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court yesterday found probable cause to warrant the filing of charges against Yong Ming Song, the man reportedly caught with 176.6 grams of methamphetamine or "ice" worth $80,000.

During a preliminary hearing, assistant U.S. attorney Jim Benedetto presented to the court Drug Enforcement Administration special agent Daniel Holcomb as the U.S. government's witness.

Court-appointed counsel Joey San Nicolas argued for Song.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson found probable cause that a crime had been committed and that Song had committed the crime.

Munson remanded the defendant into the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

Benedetto told the court that the government would be filing a charging information promptly.

Song was arrested two weeks ago after a police's check on him for driving without a seatbelt yielded 176.6 grams of "ice"—the second biggest haul of such illegal drugs so far in the CNMI.

Song, an employee of Rifu Garment Factory in San Vicente, is facing charges of possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance in federal court.

The defendant apparently told authorities that he just picked up the package under the bench of a bus stop—as directed by a friend, a person named Chen based in China.

NEW OFFICERS CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the newly-elected Associated Students of NMC, the college's student governing body, pose with NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez after their investiture ceremony held yesterday. From left, Milescelyn Rodriguez, treasurer; Ivan Mereb, president; Dr. Fernandez; Lena Wabol, secretary; and Jose Tudela, vice president.

'Alien workers should also be aware of emergency preparedness program'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Alien workers should also be aware of the emergency preparedness program in the CNMI as disaster can strike any time and at anybody, according to Emergency Management Office chief planner Theodore Untalan.

Untalan told *Saipan Tribune* that alien workers live in the CNMI and that the disaster preparedness program is everybody's business.

"My program is for everybody. It's everybody's concern," the chief planner said.

On Sunday, over 50 alien workers—mostly Filipinos—participated in EMO's Multi-Cultural Day at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe as part of the Disaster Preparedness Month activities.

"It is just asking the community to come here. We made some presentations on epidemic flu, the police and fire did presentations on safety and preparedness. And we had our communication consultant talking about communication. We had the American Red Cross, and we also did our own presentation," Untalan said, referring to Sunday's presentation.

"The message is this: Be prepared, get a kit, be informed and make a plan," he said.

Untalan expressed appreciation to Philippine Consul General Wilfredo Maximo who cooperated with the program and brought in some members of the Filipino community.

The Multi-Cultural Day was one of the many activities prepared by the Disaster Preparedness Month Committee.

EMO earlier conducted a business preparedness workshop at the Multi-Purpose Center.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Informational materials on disaster preparedness are displayed Sunday during the CNMI Emergency Management Office Multi-Cultural Day at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center as part of the activities for Disaster Preparedness Month.

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Seatbelt, child seat checkpoints set

The Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section will be conducting seatbelt and child seat checkpoints tomorrow, Sept. 24, and on Friday, Sept. 26.

In tomorrow's checkpoints, the first setup will be on Beach Road San Antonio by the basketball court across Bank of Guam. This will start around 9am and will end at about 10:15am.

The second setup will be on Beach Road Chalan Piao by Hopwood Junior High School, beginning at 7pm and ending at about 8:15pm.

On Friday, the first setup will be on Chalan Lau Lau by B&R Auto Shop, from 9am to 10:15am.

The second setup will be on Beach Road Susupe by the Minachom Atdao, across Ada Gym, and will last from 7pm until 8:15pm.

Each checkpoint conducted will last at least 75 minutes (one hour and 15 minutes) at each location. This activity is part of the department's efforts to deter and detect impaired driving and to ensure that all vehicle occupants are protected.

In addition, traffic officers will be conducting highway criminal interdictions, saturation patrols, aggressive driver interdictions, and laser activities.

For more information, contact acting Sgt. Paul T.Ogumoro at 664-9085. ***(DPS)***

Seatbelt checkpoints on Tinian

The Tinian Department of Public Safety will be conducting an occupant protection/child restraint checkpoint tomorrow, Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2008, between 7:30am and 8:30am, on Broadway Road next to the Million Poker establishment. The second checkpoint will begin at 5:30pm and end at 6:30pm on the same date on Broadway Road next to the former Democratic Headquarters.

On Friday, Sept. 26, 2008, there will be another occupant protection/child restraint checkpoint between 6:30am and 7:30am next to the Hofschneider Warehouse in Marpo Valley. The second checkpoint setup will begin at 4pm and end at 5pm on the same date on Broadway Road in San Jose Village near the baseball field. ***(DPS)***

Water running low in Rarotonga

RAROTONGA, Cook Islands (Cook Islands News/PIR)—The water situation on Rarotonga has got to the point where Water Works has had to redirect the flow the water to Puaikura late at night.

Water Works officer Adrian Teotahi says that water is being redirected between 11pm and 6am to houses from Ruaau to Blackrock.

Teotahi says that during the day the water level from Ruaau to Blackrock is very low to non-existent in some area. Water is being redirected from Titikaveka.

Low lying areas from Tupapa through to Panama are also affected with low water pressure, especially during the day.

As to the situation with the water intakes, Teotahi says it varies with some intakes sitting at 65 percent capacity and others as low as 30 percent.

The Tupapa (which feeds the back road of Tupapa) and Matavera intakes are currently the best at the moment.

Registration starts for Jr. High Mock Trial Program

The NMI Council for the Humanities is inviting seventh and eighth grade classes from around the Commonwealth to register for the 2008 Junior High Mock Trial Program.

According to the Council's acting executive director, Scott Russell, the mock trial program is held annually to help junior high school students develop useful knowledge about the law in an enjoyable, non-competitive format.

ON THE NET
www.nmihumanities.org

The program also readies participants for the competitive mock trial program at the high school level.

Each participating mock trial team will be headed by a teacher coach and will receive periodic legal advice and guidance from a lawyer coach.

Russell said that the Council will sponsor a four-hour workshop in October to introduce teacher coaches to the program. Case materials will be ready for distribution to participating teams in November.

This year's program will culminate in a series of mock trials between participating teams to be held at the U.S. District Court chamber in March 2009 during which the judge will recognize exceptional performances by student lawyers and witnesses.

Russell said that registration forms may be obtained at the Council's office in Dandan or downloaded from the Council's website at www.nmihumanities.org. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

KHS PTSA meeting tomorrow

Attention to all parents and guardians of Kagman High School students: There will be a PTSA meeting tomorrow, Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2008, 6pm-7pm, in the school cafeteria. For more information, call 237-3840 or 237-3832; fax 664-3788. ***(PR)***

Veteran's Day meeting today

November 11, 2008 Veterans Day, we will be paying tribute to all who served and are serving today in the U.S. Armed Forces.

This is to let all interested in being a part of this year's Veterans Day Committee, that we will begin to meet every Tuesdays at 9am starting on Sept. 23, 2008, at the Office of Military and Veterans Affairs on Capital Hill building 1364. Everyone is encouraged and invited to attend. Any questions, call 664-2650. ***(PR)***

Public forum with John H. Davis

There will be a public forum to meet with John H. Davis Jr., a candidate for delegate to the U.S. Congress, on Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2008, 4:30pm - 6:30pm, at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, Saipan.

The public is invited to meet with Davis, listen to his views on what he can offer as the CNMI's delegate to the U.S. Congress, and join in the discussion with any questions or concerns that anyone may have. For more information, contact Jeanne Rayphand, 287-9807. ***(PR)***

United States
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Council on Developmental Disabilities
Call for Special Meeting

Attention General Public:

We the undersigned members, composing of a majority of the membership of the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities are hereby calling for a Special Meeting to take place on Wednesday, September 24, 2008 at 9 am in the NMPASI Conference Room. The meeting is called upon based on the Council on Developmental Disabilities Bylaws (dated June 11, 2007 and January 31, 2003)

Agenda:

I. Welcoming Remarks

II. Roll Call

III. Establishment of Quorum

IV. Executive Session

V. Open Session

VI. Next Meeting

VII. Closure

Dutifully Authorized and Approved by:

Roger Abe, L. Marissa Guerrero, James Rayphand, Suzanne Lizama, Margarita Olopai-Taitano, David Attao, Edith Deleon Guerrero, Derek Duenas, Cynthia Attao, Howard Macaranas, Jeanne Aquino, Helen Sablan

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NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Vice Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that a Special Meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday, September 24, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
A. PY 2008 Annual Action Plan
B. Community Development Block Grant Projects

V. MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAMS
A. Status of Loan Programs
B. Other Loan Matters

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VII. OTHER MATTERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: Pursuant to PL 8-41, Section 13(6) and (7), some discussion of the above may be under Executive Session.

/s/ **MERCED (MARCIE) M. TOMOKANE**
Vice Chairwoman of the Board

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

September 23,1999

Candidates gear up for elections
Political hopefuls have started gearing up. Campaign banners hang everywhere. Debates are around the corner. A total of 70 candidates -18 of them are reelectionists - will race for different positions at stake in the Nov. 6 mid-term elections, according to records from the Board of Elections. Yesterday was the last day for filing of nominating petitions, which will be certified today, according to BOE Executive Director Gregorio Sablan.

Continental's decision worries tour operators
The Northern Marianas would have difficulty recovering from the tourism slump with the decision of Continental Micronesia to remove all its direct flights from various cities in Japan to Saipan, according to Japan Saipan Travel Association. In fact, more Japanese now would prefer to go to Guam than Saipan as they have always shunned waiting for more than 30 minutes to take a 30-minute connecting flight to Saipan, said Iwao Sakai, general manager of R&C Tours.

US gives back Tinian land to CNMI
The U.S. Navy turns over today to the CNMI government more than 5.2-million square meters of land on Tinian which will be used for the expansion of its airport. A brief turnover ceremony will be held on Tinian in the presence of Lt. Gov. Jesus R. Sablan and Commonwealth Ports Authority officials. The Division of Public Lands earlier approved a conditional conveyance of certain U.S. military lands to the ports authority for the expansion of West Tinian Airport.

September 23, 2002

NMIRF sued for denying benefits
Officials of the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund were slapped with a lawsuit for denying disability retirement benefits and for failure to decide promptly on an appeal by a former Public School System psychologist allegedly suffering from brain injury. Named defendants to the lawsuit were Fund administrator and chief executive officer Karl T. Reyes, the Fund's Board of Trustees, and the Fund itself. They were sued in their official capacities.

Is child sexual abuse becoming rampant in NMI?
That question is prompted by a report Friday by the Department of Public Safety that another man has been arrested for sexually abusing a 13-year-old girl sometime last week. Police spokesman Lt. Pete Muna refused to say if cases of sexual abuse of children are becoming rampant, but he added that such cases have already Òhappened many times.Ó

Receiver seeks support for CDA-BoS deal
Bank of Saipan receiver Randall T. Fennell is aggressively pushing for the ratification of the proposed agreement with the Commonwealth Development Authority, as he intends to persuade all government agency depositors to support the proposal after a meeting with Gov. Juan N. Babauta. Under the scheme, government agencies that have deposits at the BoS may withdraw the equivalent amount of their money from the Commonwealth Development Authority, which, in turn, would acquire some $16 million in collectibles from secured loans at the bank. The CDA stands to collect the loans, which are earning interests, while the obligation of the bank to government agencies would be extinguished.

September 23, 2003

CNMI gets $10M from Bush
The CNMI government received a $10-million allotment for two fiscal years beginning this year from the Bush administration under the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act. The government, through the Governor's Office, received the initial $5 million grant last June. It expects to get the remaining amount of another $5 million on Oct. 1, 2003.

Disaster preparedness program urged
All schools in the Commonwealth are urged to participate in a disaster preparedness program that would raise the level of alertness among students and teachers in time of man-made and natural calamities. This is in light of the weeklong observance of the CNMI Disaster Preparedness Week, which was endorsed yesterday by Gov. Juan N. Babauta during a simple ceremony at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Hawaii leprosy settlement faces sainthood dilemma

KALAUPAPA, Hawaii (AP)—In a state known for bustling, exciting tourist destinations such as Waikiki and the Kilauea volcano, Kalaupapa is sacred ground, with a history of disease, suffering and isolation.

Some 8,000 people have died on this remote peninsula since the Hawaiian Kingdom started exiling leprosy patients here in 1866. Many were torn from their families and left to scrounge for shelter, clothes and food. The vast majority were buried in unmarked graves.

Today, visitor interest in Kalaupapa, on the northern edge of Molokai island, is growing. And it will likely increase when the Vatican proclaims Father Damien—the 19th century priest who cared for the leprosy patients—a saint, most likely late next year.

The two dozen patients still living here are eager to celebrate Kalaupapa's most famous resident, a selfless man who cared for leprosy patients when many others shunned them. They would welcome pilgrims at Damien's church and grave.

But therein lies a dilemma. The patients and their supporters also don't want throngs of tourists disturbing the community's privacy and desecrating the land.

"The priority is the patients. That's why we have to approach this very delicately," said state Sen. J. Kalani English. "Their privacy is paramount, their security is paramount, their dignity is paramount."

Kalaupapa's attraction for tourists and pilgrims is heightened by the dramatic story behind the Vatican's recognition of a miracle attributed to Damien, who died in 1889 after contracting leprosy himself. It's this miracle that cleared the way for sainthood.

Audrey Toguchi, an 80-year-old Catholic from the Honolulu suburb of Aiea, came to Kalaupapa 10 years ago to pray for help at Damien's grave after she was diagnosed with terminal cancer. Less than a year later, Toguchi's cancer disappeared.

In July, Pope Benedict XVI ruled Damien had intervened because there was no scientific explanation for her recovery.

Kalaupapa is dramatically isolated, a peninsula cut off by 2,000-foot cliffs and surrounded by ocean. It can only be reached by small plane, mule ride or a 1- to 2-hour hike. Only 100 people live here, including the patients and care workers.

The state Department of Health limits visitors to Kalaupapa at 100 per day, and each visitor must obtain a permit. On average, only about 25 make the trip.

Terryl Vencl, executive director of the Maui Visitors Bureau, which promotes Molokai tourism, expects more people will want to visit but isn't sure how many. The bureau has no plans to market tours after Damien is canonized but will give travel agents information about Kalaupapa.

Lawmakers, state officials, and the National Park Service, which operates a historical park at Kalaupapa, all promise they won't allow the visitor cap to be raised without approval by from the remaining patients.

AP

In this photo provided by Hawaii State Archive, Father Damien is seen in this portrait taken two months before his death in 1889 at the leprosy settlement in Kalaupapa, Hawaii.

Anwei Law, a historian who has been coming to Kalaupapa for almost 40 years, said visitors need to remember that Kalaupapa is not just another tourist attraction.

"It's a sacred place because you've had so many people live there and die there," said Law. "It's a place where people had everything taken from them, but their response was not one of hatred."

Leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease, is spread by direct person-to-person contact, although it's not easily transmitted. It can cause skin lesions, mangle fingers and toes, and lead to blindness.

But it's been curable since the development of sulfone drugs in the 1940s and people treated with drugs aren't contagious. Hawaii did away with the exile policy in 1969.

Patients sent here before 1969 are free to leave, but many have chosen to stay because it's become their home.

The state has promised to keep the settlement open and care for patients until the last one dies. The youngest is now 67.

After that, the National Park Service will take over management of the peninsula.

The kingdom began strictly enforcing its isolation policy in 1873—the year Damien arrived—sending hundreds of people to Kalaupapa even though there was no housing for them and no doctor to care for their sores. They were expected to build their own homes, grow their own food, and make their own clothes even though many of them were profoundly sick.

When a resident doctor finally arrived in 1879, he wouldn't touch anybody and left medicine on a fence post.

Damien, born in Belgium as Joseph de Veuster, stood out because he stayed and put no barriers between himself and the patients. He built homes, constructed a water system, and imported cattle. He had no medical training, but he did have a medical book and a bag, and he made rounds washing and bandaging patient's sores.

He shared his pipe with patients and ate from the same bowl. Even before he contracted Hansen's disease, Damien began his sermons saying "We lepers."

Damien was diagnosed with leprosy 12 years after he arrived at Kalaupapa and died four years later, at age 49. He's the only health care worker in Hawaii who ever contracted Hansen's.

Henry Nalaielua, 83, a patient who moved to Kalaupapa in 1941, said it would be "a glorious day" when Damien is canonized and would welcome pilgrims.

"I know all of us hope that he does become a saint," said Nalaielua, a Catholic. "And that his church here will maybe become a shrine, instead of just Father Damien's church."

Even so, patients and their supporters are firm in wanting to retain the 100-person-per-day limit, even if more people want to come seeking another Damien miracle.

"You have to realize that the patients are still here," said patient Gloria Marks, 70.

Law, the historian, said the limit on visitors should be maintained even after the last patient dies.

"You really need to be able to feel the isolation of the place. If you're there with 500 people, you're no way going to feel the isolation that people had to go through," said Law. "You lose a lot of the lessons of history and the meaning."

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The following foreign national workers/employees' of **UNITED INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION (U.I.C.)** are hereby notified to come in and pick up your **"Transfer Order"** on/or before **September 26, 2008** at the Department of Labor, Enforcement Section, 2nd floor, Afetnas building, San Antonio, Saipan. Your deadline to register with the Division of Employment Services ("Employment Services") for transfer purposes will be no later than **October 6, 2008**. This notice will act as proof of service on your behalf in this case matter (C.A.C. No.08-218-07). Should you have any question please contact Tel. No.236-0967 for assistance.

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Zhong, Meiping	156532
Zhong, Xiaolan	202240
Zhong, Xingmin	176410
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Zhou, Xifen	188069
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Zhu, Yuezhen	164567
Zhu, Liju	201084
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Zhu, Yucui	291420
Zhu, Yuhua	291382
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Note: Failure to pick up your Transfer Order may result with your disqualification of employment in the CNMI.

Dated this 18th day of September 2008.

/s/ Barry A. Hirshbien
Director of Labor

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

Set a floor for oil prices

Oil prices are plummeting, and the government ought to do something about it.

You thought that the dramatic decline in the price of oil was one of the few good pieces of economic news lately? Well, in some ways of course it is. As the Post's Steven Mufson reported last week, the price of oil had dropped 38 percent since peaking two months ago. It rose Friday to $104.55 per barrel, but that was still well below the July 11 high of $147.27. The drop eases inflation fears and takes pressure off the U.S. trade deficit. It may hurt autocratic governments in oil-producing nations such as Russia and Iran. Most of all, it makes life a little easier for Americans squeezed by costly gasoline and frightened about how they're going to heat their homes this winter.

But spurred by rising prices, Americans were beginning to change the way they use energy, and a downward trend, particularly if it continues, could abort that essential modification just as it was gaining momentum. As Paolo Scaroni, chief executive of the Italian oil giant ENI, said in a visit to The Post last week, the single greatest opportunity for Americans to move toward energy independence lies in conservation. The average American burns 26 barrels of oil per year, Mr. Scaroni said, compared to 12 for the average European; if Americans drove cars of the same efficiency as Europeans—even if they continued driving just as many miles as they do today—they would save in annual oil consumption the equivalent of Iran's entire annual production.

That isn't going to happen overnight, but this year Americans did begin moving from large cars and trucks to smaller ones, and from driving to walking or taking trains and buses. Alternative sources of energy, such as wind and solar power, began to seem more competitive and so to attract more private investment.

There is one way to maintain that progress without asking OPEC to keep prices high, and that's for the government to set a floor on the price of oil with a variable tax. If the price rose back above, say, $110 per barrel, the feds would collect no tax; as it dropped below that, the government could levy sufficient tax to keep the price at the equivalent of $110 per barrel, to rise by a predictable percentage every year. Investors in wind and solar power would have certainty. The Saudis would not be unnecessarily enriched. And ordinary Americans wouldn't have to suffer; Congress could rebate the money at tax time. This wouldn't be about increasing government revenue, in other words, but about changing patterns of consumption.

This is not the proposal you're hearing from the presidential candidates or members of Congress, even as they promise to tackle the energy crisis and deliver us from Big Oil. They talk about maintaining resolve as oil prices decline, even though only price can do that. And they talk about investing tax dollars in wind and solar power, nuclear and coal energy, and battery and biofuel research. Certainly government has a role to play in spurring research. But who is better qualified to decide on huge investments and allocate research funds, House leaders Nancy Pelosi and John Boehner—or millions of investors, engineers, scientists and executives receiving clear market signals that the era of cheap oil is over? You won't hear a straight answer from the politicians during this campaign season, but as you listen to their promises to spend your money on investment tax credits and lucrative subsidies, at least keep the question in mind.

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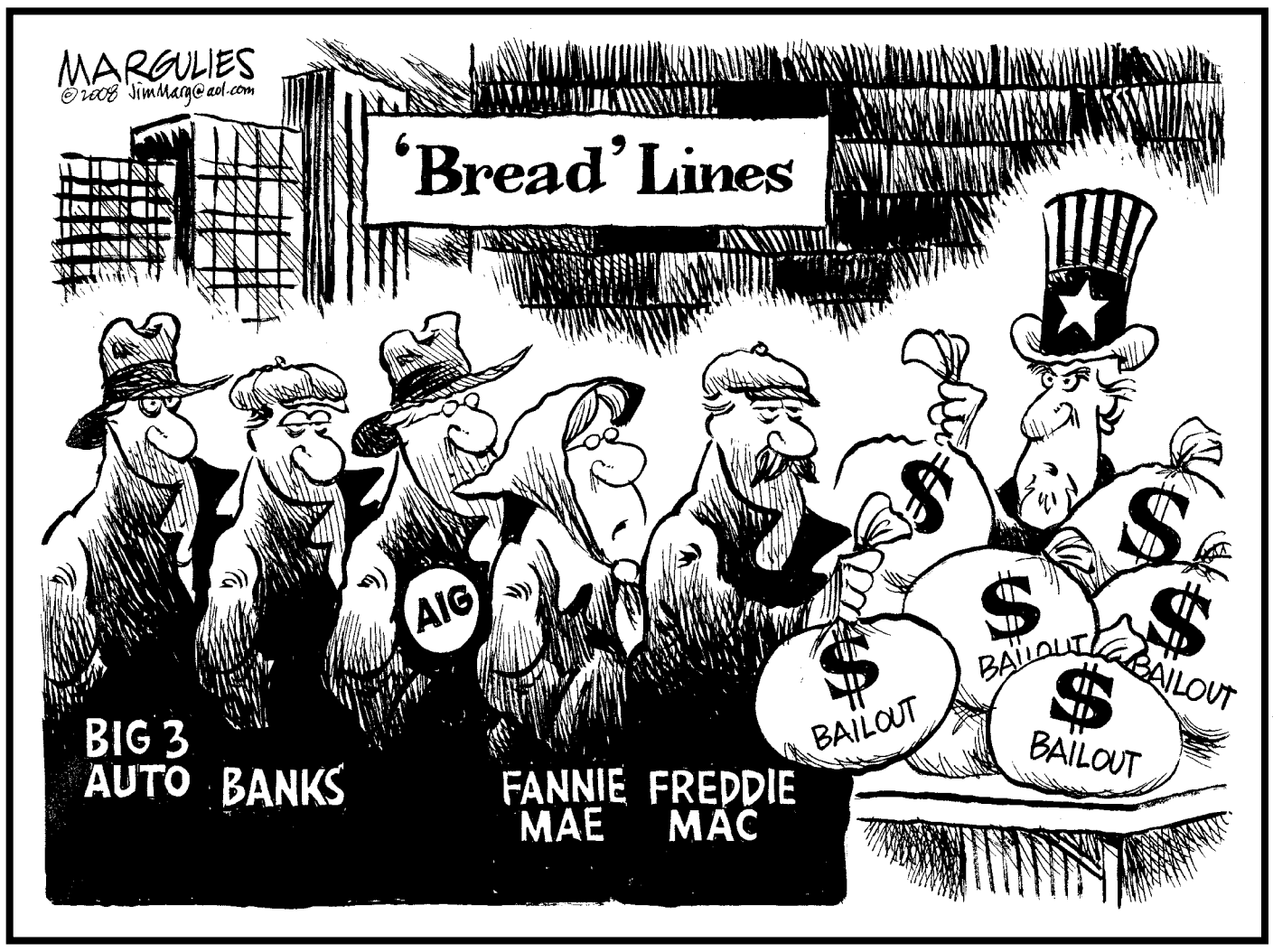

It's a Pinto

Drug needle

I have heard several folks criticizing local and federal law enforcement for their failure to stop the importation of drugs found in a Chinese garment worker's car recently. I do not agree. Trying to stop this kind of thing at the border seems almost impossible.

While 176 grams sounds like a lot (and is a lot if it is being used by a relative who is destroying his family with it) it is really a tiny amount size-wise. About 6 ounces of anything—illegal drugs, shredded carrots or beach sand—is a pretty small package and could be hidden most anywhere.

Before finding fault with DEA or FBI or CPA or DPS, think about how difficult it would be to find that needle in a haystack. Interdiction of large quantities is probably possible because of the physical size of the contraband package. How on earth would you expect to find something that small on a regular basis? I've heard of drug smelling dogs but would that work on something sealed airtight and really tiny in size? My guess would be probably not. Any experts in the field willing to give an opinion?

So it seems that solving the problem by reducing demand or by curbing illegal usage would be a far more profitable use of DPS/FBI/CPA/DEA personnel time than trying to find that tiny needle in the haystack of incoming people, baggage, merchandise, ship and air cargo.

Congratulations are due to the patrol officers who were observant enough to catch this guy during a routine traffic stop and get him and the drugs off the street.

■ ■ ■ ■

Up the wrong tree

Recently, a group of people assembled at Fishing Base to vent their frustrations at the power outages that have plagued our island for the last few months. Why the leaders of the event waited to protest until after the problem was temporarily solved by the Aggreko generators is a mystery only they know the answer to.

What they want is reliable and affordable power. That is a laudable goal. The way they want to do it is a throwback to the failed mechanisms of yesteryear. Individually and collectively they are calling for and insisting that "affordable" power is a right assured to everyone. It is not a right; electric power is a commodity and has a price like any other good or service.

They are asking for a regression to the old days that they themselves in the next breath call for an end to. Then as now, the local government owned and operated the power plants. Here on Saipan there used to be relatively reliable power and it was affordable as well, it was cheap in fact based on what it actually cost to produce it. It was cheap because the rate paying customers were not charged as much as it cost to make the power. The difference was made up for by government subsidies. They took all the money paid by the ratepayers into the system and used it for operations, plus they took more funds wrested from other sources and threw them in on top to keep the lights on. Little or nothing was spent on a decaying infrastructure as we all know and now it has come home to roost. They kept rates artificially low and that was the problem, not the solution. So to call out now for artificially lowered rates is irresponsible and won't work this time any better than it did last time.

We should look to someone other than our government's administration, this one or any other one, to come up with answers to the affordability question. Likewise we should look elsewhere to find a professional operations company if we don't want to see this emergency fiasco repeated endlessly into the future. Rate setting and reliable operations should be done by a responsible and professional third party company or co-op, not the government. Let's leave upside pricing oversight to a well trained Public Utilities Commission and downside pricing to real costs and reasonable profits. We will all pay less and have the reliability we all want to boot.

Privatize CUC with a completely open, no strings attached bid process. Then we have a chance for reliable affordable power. Begging another government group to take the reins from this government group is begging for more of the same.

■ ■ ■ ■

Which color horse?

Last week's Sour Grapes had a section about the importance of consistency of purpose between the local administration and the new officer we are about to elect called a non-voting delegate. As a side issue in that piece I wrote, "Our elected Washing Rep is still in office though he is running for another office and the Constitution says he should resign." Pete, and a couple of other people have sent me e-mails offering a different interpretation and claiming that he need not resign. Pete had a copy of that e-mail printed as a Letter to the Editor citing his reasoning. Hopefully you read it.

Pete claims that the new federal law that mandates the new NVD office was written so as to define his old job to be the same as the new job he hopes to be elected to even though they are completely

See IT'S on Next Page

SOUR GRAPES

By BRUCE BATEMAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Bruce A. Bateman writes Sour Grapes when the moon is full and the mood strikes. Stay tuned for each exciting episode. "Yes, he is opinionated." Email: bbateman@pticom.com; Blog: http://saipanuvian.blogspot.com/

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Letters to the Editor

Unbridled truth

As a native to the beautiful island of Saipan, I feel a responsibility to make known the actual content in the CNMI Covenant, which has recently been misquoted. Our right to self-government has been repeatedly pointed out by the sponsor and executor of the current lawsuit against the federal government. According to the Covenant, we do have this right indicated in section 103, where it states verbatim: *Section 103. The people of the Northern Mariana Islands will have the right of local self-government and will govern themselves with respect to internal affairs in accordance with a Constitution of their own adoption.*

This specific section in the Covenant clearly indicates what our rights are regarding self-government and to where those rights pertain. We have the right to local self-government and with it, we are to govern ourselves with respect to internal affairs in accordance with the Constitution of our own adoption. Well, our Constitution has been adopted and we are failing at self-government, horribly. According to the Encarta Dictionary, internal as it would apply to the CNMI is defined as "occurring within country; originating, operating, or located within a country's borders (internal affairs)." It's not too complex to recognize where foreign workers fall according to the definition; they do not originate within our border, but are instead flown across the ocean from their home country, in order to work temporarily. I do not comprehend the interpretation as our relying on their work, nor do I comprehend how we see the justice in treating them with contempt and disregard. Of course some would point out the "or" in the definition, claiming it a loophole for us to continue using their services indefinitely. To that, I would again revert to our Covenant, section 104, verbatim: *The United States will have complete responsibility for and authority with respect to matters relating to foreign affairs and defense affecting the Northern Mariana Islands.* The language does not get any more basic.

The lawsuit against the United States has no grounds, especially upon review of the Covenant. The foreign workers are/were within our borders on a temporary basis. They were given permissions according to laws enacted before the United States decided to reclaim their just position and right in accordance to the Covenant. They decide security in immigration and this trumps economic stability that is reliant on indentured servitude. They researched and found our government to be lacking in ensuring immigration security. The Governor, claiming the United States has no grounds to take control and implement the new immigration law, is absolute ludicrousness (its actually a word). Section 104 of our Covenant plainly points out the United States having complete responsibility for and authority with respect to matters relating to foreign affairs! It doesn't take a self-taught pawn, jail-yard lawyer to understand that.

This leads me to believe that the only reason any law firm would take this case is because they stand to gain a ton of cash regardless of winning or losing—of these, losing being the more likely—and the people would end up hurting in two ways: one, they will end up paying for the money lost; two, the relationship between the CNMI and the United States would be tarnished. It's beyond the scope of legality to think our relationship would remain fully intact after an act of desperation and disrespect. What is laid out in black and white, legally, will be resonating in the minds of true decision makers. Anyone with a negligible education knows there are countless ways within the law to indicate the lessening of what should be a solid friendship. And if any government has this type of thing down pat, it's the federal government.

It takes a special person (super special, get it?) to think you can bite the hand that feeds you and not have any form of retaliation. Sure it would be nice to believe they would take derision and smile; however, we don't live in a wonderland. In the real world, regardless of what is legally expected, there are always repercussions. Newton's law exclaims, "For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction." If Governor Fitial has his way and the Legislature allows his suit to be funded on the backs of the people, we would definitely be receiving the equal and opposite reaction.

Truthfully, federalization will benefit us, if we stopped for a moment to see the advantage it brings. It will compel us to economically stand on our own, rather than on the subjugation of foreign workers. Instead of turning a blind eye to the atrocities these underpaid, malnourished, and devastatingly impoverished workers are undergoing, we will regain the pride of surviving on our own hard work, blood, sweat and tears. Maybe you won't be able to afford a maid and have to wash your own clothes, but the end result will better the lives of our future, the children. And oh, by the way, whenever the federal government does something like this, they usually come bearing fat pockets with other grants and financial measures to assist in the transition. Only this time, the money would be for the people instead of simply lacing the inner linings of the politically corrupt. To that end, I surmise the governor's view is purely in defense of the loss of revenue built on the unhealthy backs of cheap labor and human trafficking (objection speculation!), in addition to defending his pride through a horrid attempt of a lawsuit.

With some claiming we have an already unworkable relationship, I contend it is a relationship that America has been trying to improve, while some of our lapdogs (corrupted leaders) resist, to the detriment of our culture. What is understandable is the desire to clear the air in hopes of defining and refining the federal/CNMI relationship. But, how can it be defined when the corrupt keep blinding the public from the truth? And honestly, why refine: because some want to have their cake (cheap labor) and eat it too (fattened pockets)? I apologize, but there is no getting without giving. The United States is doing a lot for our people and some just keep crying for more, without wanting to give anything in return. Listen, the federal government is not obligated under the Covenant agreement to provide for a progressively higher standard of living for our people. They agreed to assist us in the direction leading to our self-government accomplishing this task. Unfortunately, the local government is pocketing the help the federal government is giving, and then claiming it's the U.S. fault! Perhaps it may be best for some to revisit their second grade teacher and learn reading comprehension. By the way, respect is earned and not implicitly demanded. Continued disrespect toward the federal government shows only the opposite of what our culture entails. And that is the unbridled truth.

Dwayne P. Blas Reyes
Sierra Vista, Arizona

Law of the sea

Seems like a lot of confusion out there as to some of the legal details and formalities concerning the proposed marine national monument. Unfortunately, keeping the public misinformed is the way many of the opponents to this idea probably want things to stay because controlling people through fear and ignorance is a powerful way to keep the public silent. In any respect, as to submerged land (and all the stuff found in the water) surrounding the Northern Mariana Islands, *legally speaking*, the U.S. Court of Appeals' decision in *CNMI v. USA*, 399 F.3d 1057 (2005) makes absolutely clear that the United States already owns all the rights to the submerged lands and other things of value found from the low-water mark on all of our islands out to the 200-mile-limit of the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone. All the natural resources such as oil, gas, and all other minerals, and fish, shrimp, oysters, clams, crabs, lobsters, sponges, kelp, and other marine animal and plant life surrounding these islands are already under federal control and ownership.

As categorically explained in *CNMI v. USA,* the U.S. acquired upon the termination of the Pacific Islands Trusteeship a paramount interest in the seaward submerged lands found off the shores of the CNMI. "Laws passed by the CNMI Legislature to the contrary are inconsistent with the paramountcy doctrine and are preempted by federal law." To be absolutely clear, the CNMI's Submerged Lands Act and Marine Sovereignty Act have been preempted and are unenforceable. The CNMI Coastal Resources Management's arguments that: (i) we don't no need the feds because everything is already fine and dandy in the waters around the Northern Islands due to the great job CRM is doing; and (ii) that establishing a national monument will take away the rights of the local people how to regulate the local marine environment are absurd or otherwise nonsense.

First, CRM taking credit for the pristine conditions found in the waters around the Northern Islands is like CRM taking credit for the Sun being an efficient source of solar energy. (*In all due respect: One has absolutely nothing to do with the other*.) Second, the right of the local people to regulate the local marine environment was transferred or passed to the United States the day the people of the Northern Mariana Islands became United States citizens on Nov. 3, 1986. If a marine national park/monument is created, it won't be taking any rights away from the people of the CNMI, but would guarantee that the pristine conditions found in the waters around the Northern Islands will at least have a chance to survive. As for the actual islands of Maug, Uracas and Asuncion, they are already protected and can only "be maintained as uninhabited places used only for the preservation and protection of natural resources, including but not limited to bird, wildlife and plant species." *See* CNMI Constitution Article XIV Section 2.

W.M. Bogdan, Esq.
via e-mail

Group Life Insurance enrollment ends soon

This is an open reminder to both active employees as well as retirees of the CNMI government. Your Government Group Life Insurance enrollment comes to an end on Sept. 30, 2008, which means if you have yet to complete your enrollment application, then you will lose your Government Group Life Insurance coverage on Oct. 1, 2008.

Effective July 1, 2008, Moylans Insurance Underwriters was awarded the contract to administer the CNMI Government Group Life Insurance program. Enrollment has been quite successful; however there are still hundreds of employees who have yet to complete their applications. Keep in mind that although enrolling is not mandatory, completing the forms is if you plan on maintaining your coverage.

Many employees have been misinformed with information that the coverage automatically rolls over without any documentation. Once again, this is not true. Another common confusion is that personal insurance programs are being affected during this enrollment period. This is also misinformation, and we highly recommend that employees refrain from amending their payroll allotments, as this may affect any cash value buildups on your supplemental plans. The only changes on your insurance program are your group basic and dependent life coverage. These are indicated on your check stubs as Life Basic and DepCov, respectively. The benefits of the Government Group Life Insurance program are mirrored with the benefits you have enjoyed for many years. It is also relatively inexpensive and during the enrollment period no medical underwriting requirements are needed. This is definitely coverage that would provide the additional protection that your family truly deserves.

If any additional questions arise, then please contact our office at 234-6129. Remember that time is running out very quickly.

Bobby A. Shringi
Moylans Insurance
Beach Road, Saipan

IT'S

From Page 10

different. Maybe that is true.

Note that Pete A. currently works for the CNMI and is paid by the CNMI treasury. His title is "Resident Representative to the United States"; he is an elected and paid lobbyist for the CNMI. The new position he hopes to be elected to is the "Delegate to the House of Representatives," a different animal entirely. Whoever wins will be paid by the United States Treasury. This is clearly a different job with a different title, different responsibilities, different authority and a different paymaster. To say he is running for the same office is not factual and at best constitutes semantic pandering. Note also that the office term of Washington Rep does not even expire until 2010. Maybe the reason for the language calling an apple an orange is so there are not two representatives from the CNMI floating around Washington at the same time, and not so the current Rep does not have to resign before running for a different job.

So it is a matter of interpretation whether the current Resident Representative should resign to run for the non-voting delegate's office. However, the time frame is so short now that I guess it doesn't make much difference so I won't continue to beat this different colored horse of an argument any longer.

One other point deserves mention. Some think I bring this up because I don't like Pete A. Nothing could be further from the truth. I like and respect him. In fact I find him to be an engaging man with enough intelligence and diplomatic capability to do the job if he is elected by the people of the CNMI. I don't agree with his new philosophical position nor do I want to personally back someone who has "flipped" positions, but he is certainly capable if elected, which is also true for most of the other candidates.

Anyway Pete, good luck and thanks for reading Sour Grapes.

■ ■ ■ ■

Quote of the week: When you point your finger at the moon, you want others to look at the moon, not your finger.

—Zen homily

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲85° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°	▲86° ▼77°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Pohnpei	Thundershowers	▲86	▼77
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼75
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼79

Around The Globe

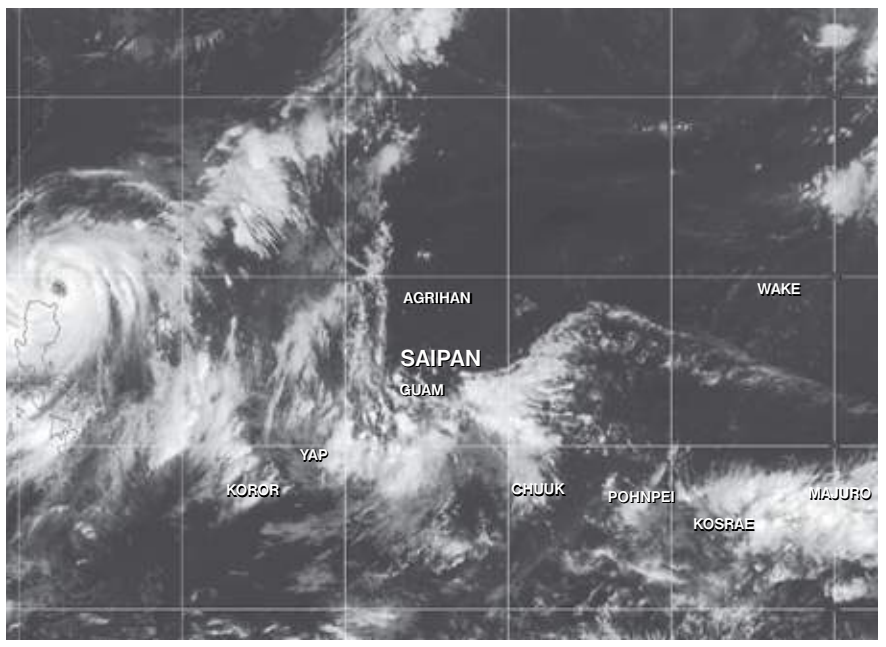
Auckland	Partly Sunny	▲66	▼52
Beijing	Showers	▲68	▼52
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲91	▼81
Honolulu	Partly Sunny	▲84	▼75
London	Showers	▲61	▼48
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲83	▼62
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88	▼79
Melbourne	Showers	▲59	▼41
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼77
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼54
Osaka	Partly Sunny	▲83	▼68
Paris	Cloudy	▲64	▼47
Pusan	Showers	▲79	▼68
Rome	Cloudy	▲71	▼56
Salem	Partly Sunny	▲68	▼48
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲76	▼54
Seoul	Showers	▲81	▼63
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲82	▼63
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲72	▼55

Tides

Saipan Harbor

8:07AM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
4:09PM Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
8:55PM Today	Low Tide:	1.4 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2008
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Hagupit (18W) is west of the discussion area. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with Hagupit are west of 135E between 10N and 20N. The monsoon trough extends from Typhoon Hagupit southeastward between Yap and Guam across Chuuk state to south of Kosrae. Areas of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are between Yap and the southern Marianas and eastward to around Chuuk state or within a line from 13N140E to 14N153E to 7N153E to 8N139E back to 13N140E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from Pohnpei eastward across Kosrae and the Marshall Islands or within 200 miles of a line from 5N157E to 7N179E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:06AM	6:12 PM
Wednesday	6:06AM	6:12 PM
Thursday	6:06AM	6:11 PM
Friday	6:06AM	6:10 PM
Saturday	6:06AM	6:09 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:00AM	1:34PM
Wednesday	1:04AM	2:27PM
Thursday	2:05AM	3:15PM
Friday	3:04AM	3:59PM
Saturday	3:59AM	4:39PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2008

DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota

CO 9313	8:30am	9:05am	3,4,7

Saipan-Guam

CO9317	4:00am	4:50am	Daily
CO9597	8:30am	9:20am	1,2,5,6
CO9313	8:30am	10:00am	3,4,7 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	Daily
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

Saipan-Narita

NW 099	5:00am	7:30am	Daily
NW 078	8:55am	2:00pm	Daily
NW 075	4:55pm	7:25pm	Daily

Saipan-Osaka

NW 083	4:20pm	6:55pm	Daily

Saipan-Nagoya

NW 078	8:55am	11:35am	Daily

Saipan-Seoul

OZ 604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ 604	2:50am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7
OZ 606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2,4,6,7

Saipan-Busan

OZ 608	3:50am	7:20am	1,5

Guam-Manila

CO 891	6:00am	10:30am	3 via Yap and Koror
CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	5 via Koror
CO 933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:45am	1,2,4,6,7

Saipan-Guanzhou

CZ 3008	5:00am	8:00am	2,6

Guam-Rota

CO 9598	10:15am	10:45am	1,2,6

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan

CO 9598	11:10am	11:45am	1,2,6

Guam-Saipan

CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	Daily
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9598	10:15am	11:45am	1,2,6 via Rota
CO9600	10:45am	11:35am	3,4,5,7
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

Narita-Saipan

NW 076	10:15am	2:50pm	Daily
NW 077	6:25pm	1:30am+1	Daily
NW 100	8:45pm	1:20am+1	Daily

Osaka-Saipan

NW 084	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

Nagoya-Saipan

NW 077	9:00pm	1:30am+1	Daily

Seoul-Saipan

OZ 605	9:00am	2:30pm	2,4,6,7
OZ 603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ 603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6

Busan-Saipan

OZ 607	9:30pm	2:50am+1	4,7

Manila-Guam

CO 892	11:45am	8:25pm+1	3 via Koror and Yap
CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	5 via Koror
CO 934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR 110	10:20pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7

Guanzhou-Saipan

CZ 3007	8:00pm	4:00am+1	1,5

Rota-Guam

CO 9313	9:30am	10:00am	3,4,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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Letters to the Editor

A Pew solution to the problem

We continue to debate the Pew monument issue. I have yet to see Pew supporters offer any substantial proof to the concept behind the project. In the March edition of *MP Magazine*, Laurie Peterka's well written story gives us the mission statement of the Pew Foundation. *"The Pew Charitable Trusts is driven by the power of knowledge to solve today's most challenging problems. Pew applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public and stimulate civic life. We partner with a diverse range of donors, public and private organizations and concerned citizens who share our commitment to fact-based solutions and goal-driven investments to improve society."*

Let's break it down. "Driven by the power of knowledge to solve today's most challenging problems." Obviously, we all know that one of the biggest problems to face our society today is poverty and to meet the ever growing demand for food stocks for future generations. This is the goal of organizations like Pew that want to help feed the world for generations to come as well as the producers of food whose job it is to meet the demand for that food supply. Sounds like we all have the same goal in mind.

"Pew applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public and stimulate civic life." I agree with the vigorous part but how much time have they really spent to do the analytical approach part? Let's face it, you guys want this done before Bush is out of office. Ron Hodges, in a recent article gave Kudos to President Bush for backing this. People indicate how this will be Bush's legacy. You have to be in denial to not already know what Bush's real legacy will be.

It goes on to say "fact-based solutions and goal-driven investments to improve society." That all sounds good on paper but what will they really accomplish if they shut that resource down indefinitely. I still have one question that no one—and I mean no one—supporting Pew has been able to answer. Is there not one person that can explain this in a hundred words or less? In what way, other than the make believe eco-tourism market you talk about, will the future generations benefit from this by closing off these natural resources? Of course I am referring to being able to use the marine life resources. You know, the fish that you use when you make your kids a sandwich. It is only one question. Can no one answer it?

Pew claims it will change tourism overnight. How does that happen? People already know we are here. People talk about the great potential for eco-tourism but why is the world not flocking here already? People may pay in excess of $20,000 for eco-tourism travel. Where are they?

Anyway, I think that Angelo Villagomez and his team have made great contributions to this community. Again, nothing but respect for Ken Kramer, Laurie Peterka and Angela Villagomez. No one can be upset by them trying to move forward with such a great endeavor. I myself grew up wanting to be an oceanographer. I knew what the Marianas Trench was at the age of five. But if Pew really wants to do something great with their $6 billion, this is what I propose. Agnes Mcphetres made mention in a recent article how the students of NMC might someday benefit. Well, why should they have to wait? I believe that Pew should finance a world-class oceanographic institute. For those of you who are not familiar, please Google Scripps Institute of Loyola California *www.sio.ucsd.edu/* or Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute out of Woods Hole Massachusetts http://www.whoi.edu/. If Pew really wants to show us what this project will do for our community then I give them the real Micronesian Challenge. Put the money up to build a world-class oceanographic and marine biology institute. Use NMC to establish the school. Provide for grants for children worldwide to come to the last real ocean frontier.

Driven by the power of knowledge to solve today's most challenging problems? Well, if you want to be driven by the power of knowledge then you must provide knowledge, which means providing education. What's a petri dish, huh? To think that students from around the world could come to live and work in the greatest classroom ever seen. Pew can provide for the infrastructure to put research centers on each island as well as provide oceangoing marine research vessels. Hire the best in their fields to come here and teach students. Now you have an ocean legacy, now you have something. Pew should not just come here to shut it down and then expect us to figure out how to make money on their legacy. Now you can make it your legacy. Are you kidding me? If you had a world-class oceanographic research facility here, now people will travel from all over the world. They just want to give us a visitor's center. Give us something real; give us something to be really proud of. Put your money where your monument is and give the gift of education.

Now take it one step further: Pew's mission statement says, "We partner with a diverse range of donors, public and private organizations and concerned citizens who share our commitment to fact-based solutions and goal-driven investments to improve society." Now you could really accomplish something if you establish an area in which students can learn, teachers can teach, tourists can tour and fishermen can fish. Now you can partner with tourism and education and the fisheries in order to accomplish your mission statement.

"Fact based solutions and goal-driven investments to improve society." Surely you are not against people fishing to make a living? You just want it respected and sustained. What better way to come up with the solutions to improve society than to have fishermen fishing the waters in coalition with your research in developing something to benefit future generations? What better place to have such a place? I mean really, you don't build Disneyland and then close the gates. You let people in so they can experience it. How will eco-tourism happen? Where are the boats that will take people north? Let Pew purchase and maintain those boats so that people can go and see the Northern Islands, not just read about it on a sign in a visitors center but to experience in. Now you have my support! Now you have really done something! Now you have put your money where your mouth is and have really put us on the map. Now you have contributed to greater education.

Scripps and Woods Hole are without a doubt world-class icons when it comes to ocean research. Why should Pew shut down this resource and then provide no access to it. I digress back to the topic of working with fishermen. In the Pew pamphlet "Boon or Bane?," Alexie Villegas Zotomayor makes a false statement that Crystal Seas failed because it could not catch fish. I don't know where she got the article from but I can say she is absolutely wrong and or the article that she quotes is wrong.

So Pew, how about it? Do you really want to help the world figure out how to improve our society? How do we resolve the problems with fisheries and environmental issues? Do you really want to bridge the gap and find solutions? You claim you are against net fishing, well, so am I. Long liners are already banned for 30 miles off shore. So do you really want to find solutions by working with other groups or do you just want to shut it down?

So people of the CNMI, if this is such a great plan, and it may very well be, then let Pew with its $6 billion come in here and build a world-class school of oceanography because I will be their first student. Let that research center work with local fishermen in order to expand research and education in the development of a sustainable fisheries business that they say that are so knowledgeable about. Mr. Jay Nelson, let that be your Ocean Legacy!

James Davies
via e-mail

Question No. 2 for delegate candidates

Thanks to the delegates who submitted their letters and I will discuss those who did or did not submit their letters at a later date. A large number of voters have been waiting to see what you have to say because your letter is important to them. It is important that people know your "intentions" as this is not a résumé convention. People need to know your "strategy," not dialog from your friends and family. Thank you gentlemen on behalf of the many people who want to hear what you have to say.

I'm sorry, candidates and voters, about the saboteurs who have tried to disrupt this public forum by attacking me but that is to be expected in any political event that has the potential to determine how people will vote. There will always be "career saboteurs" in public events just as we have career criminals. It is sad that ignorance has to show its ugly face in such an important activity but I'm sure all of you gentlemen are professional enough to deal with the antics of those on the sideline.

I also want to thank those voters who appreciate what I'm trying to do and have taken a genuine interest. Your patience in waiting to read all the questions and all the answers before making a decision to vote or to blast me for trying to help you is deeply appreciated. I'm sure the questions I present in this forum will surely give the people some insight on who is the best person to get their vote.

The second question is *"What is your stance on Federalization and how will you approach it as our Delegate to Congress"?* Please do not deviate from this question in your answer and follow the same format of 1,000 words. The deadline for your answers will be Oct. 3. The following candidates met the deadline for submitting their answers to the first question: John Oliver Gonzales, Pete A. Tenorio and Chong Won. Their responses will be published this Friday.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

Stop manipulating voters

As the delegate race draws closer to finality, I would like to remind voters to please vote for the highest qualified candidate regardless of party affiliation or family connection. I am saying this after attending a rosary and hearing the same old politics play out by members of one clan reminding us that we have to vote for a certain candidate because he was family.

I actually found that type of politics outdated and an insult to the voters of the CNMI. I cannot find it in my conscience to do so, knowing that there are serious problems on our island and many people are enduring hardships as a result of ineffective leadership.

What's more troubling is the fact that our biggest challenge and test has yet to come and will soon come before us once the federalization and the next minimum wage hike occurs. With all the problems our island faces, it's surprising that we have not learned anything. Instead we have ineffective leadership from our Washington Representative, to all members of the House and Senate.

Everyone wants change and vows to elect "highly" qualified candidates but every election it's the same old politics, same old story, and same old disappointments we are faced with. We the voters are manipulated and persuaded by the dominating Republican Party or by prominent family members who have both ruled and contributed to the downfall of our island.

The quality of representation to U.S. Congress is critical as it is no secret that most members of the House and Senate are well-educated, possessing college degrees. What is most critical to CNMI voters to know is that over 180 members of the U.S. Congress and 57 members of the Senate are lawyers. This election if held in the United States would be easily decided but unfortunately Saipan politics is dominated by our Republican party.

Enough is enough with manipulating voters. Wake up CNMI! Vote for responsible leadership and a person who will not shame us or the CNMI!

James Camacho
Garapan, Saipan

Protection from discrimination

The U.S. House of Representatives gave its approval to legislation to stop discrimination against individuals with disabilities by restoring the original Congressional intent of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

S. 3406, which was approved by the U.S. Senate on Sept. 11, 2008, will soon be on its way to the President, who is expected to sign it into law.

As an ardent advocate for individuals with disabilities, I join the members of Congress who hail that this important legislation will strengthen and clarify the existing Americans with Disabilities Act and prevent those with disabilities from falling into unforeseen legal loopholes. I am happy that S. 3406 corrects a series of 1999 Supreme Court decisions that excluded from the ADA protection individuals who take medication to treat conditions like epilepsy or those who wear hearing aids or use prosthetic limbs, among others. For too many years, individuals whom Congress intended to protect from disability discrimination have been denied protection because of the Supreme Court's cramped interpretation of this landmark civil rights law and S. 3406 demands that the courts honor the original spirit of the law.

As a veteran, I am pleased that S. 3406 also ensures coverage for our brave men and women in uniform returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan with injuries. These veterans have faced serious risk and sacrificed much in service to country and can now return home knowing that they will be protected from discrimination.

I urge the President to swiftly sign S. 3406 into law.

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
Garapan, Saipan

Business

Last major investment banks change status

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Federal Reserve said Sunday it had granted a request by the country's last two major investment banks—Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley—to change their status to bank holding companies.

The Fed announced that it had approved the request of the two investment banks. The change in status will allow them to create commercial banks that will be able to take deposits, bolstering the resources of both institutions.

The change continued the biggest restructuring on Wall Street since the Great Depression.

The request for the change to bank holding companies was granted by a unanimous vote of the Fed's board of governors during a late Sunday meeting in Washington.

The change of status means both companies will come under the direct regulation of the Federal Reserve, which regulates the nation's bank holding companies. The banking subsidiaries of the two institutions will face the stricter regulations that commercial banks are required to meet. Previously, the primary regulator for Goldman and Morgan Stanley was the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Shares of both institutions had come under pressure ever since the bankruptcy filing last week by investment bank Lehman Brothers and the forced sale of investment bank Merrill Lynch to Bank of America.

Investors feared that the last remaining independent investment banks would not be able to survive in their current form. There had been speculation that both institutions would be acquired by commercial banks, whose ability to take deposits would give them a stable source of funding.

The decision by the two giants of finance to get approval from the Fed to change their own status represented another dramatic development in one of the most turbulent periods in Wall Street history.

In the surprise announcement late Sunday, the central bank said that to provide increase funding support to the two institutions during the transition period, they would be allowed to get short-term loans from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York against various types of collateral.

The Fed said its action would take final effect after a five-day waiting period required under law.

The decision means that the Goldman and Morgan Stanley will be able not only to set up commercial bank subsidiaries to take deposits, giving them a major resource base, but they will also have the same access as other commercial banks to the Fed's emergency loan program.

After the collapse of Bear Stearns and its forced sale to JP Morgan Chase last March, the Fed used powers it had been granted during the Great Depression to extend its emergency loans to investment banks as well as commercial banks. However, that extension was granted on a temporary basis.

AP

A man washes a cobblestone street beneath Goldman Sachs headquarters, center, in New York's financial district, Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2008. The Federal Reserve said Sunday it had granted a request by the country's last two major investment banks—Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley—to change their status to bank holding companies.

Paulson urges quick action on $700 billion bailout

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Bush administration insisted Sunday that Congress must move quickly to approve what one lawmaker called the "mother of all bailouts"—a $700 billion proposal to buy a mountain of bad mortgage debt in an effort to unfreeze the nation's credit markets.

Congressional leaders endorsed the plan's main thrust, saying passage might occur in a matter of days. But they said it must be expanded to include help for people on Main Street as well as the big Wall Street financial firms who have lost billions of dollars through their bad investment decisions.

The proposal "does not include the necessary safeguards," said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. She called for "independent oversight, protections for homeowners and constraints on excessive executive compensation."

Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson stressed that time was critical to get the proposal passed and that changes to the administration's measure, which was sent to lawmakers on Saturday, could delay that approval, further unsettling global financial markets, which have already seen a number of stomach-churning days as the result of the biggest upheaval on Wall Street since the Great Depression.

In yet another indication of how quickly events are moving, the Federal Reserve announced late Sunday that it had granted a request by Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley, the country's last two major independent investment banks, to change their status to bank holding companies.

The change will allow the two institutions to open commercial banking subsidiaries, greatly bolstering the resources of both institutions.

Credit markets calm for now, but remain jittery

NEW YORK (AP)—U.S. stock futures were falling Sunday night, a sign that investors are still nervous about the government's $700 billion rescue plan to resuscitate frozen credit markets.

But take it from Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson: If you want to know whether the maelstrom that seemed poised to take down financial markets last week has eased, you have to pay attention to what companies and individuals are doing with their cash.

"The stock market going up and down is not what we should be looking at. We need to look at what's going on in the credit markets, and they are still very fragile right now and frozen," Paulson said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

And on that score, the early signs were promising. Yields on Treasury securities were rising Sunday night, a sign that the flight-to-quality push by panicked investors last week to put their cash in what they viewed as only the safest of investments was easing.

But in late Sunday trading, U.S. stocks futures weren't faring as well, after rallies on Thursday and Friday that pushed up the Dow Jones industrial index by almost 800 points—recouping their losses from earlier in the week. Dow Jones futures dropped almost 200 points at one point late Sunday, while Standard & Poor's 500 index futures and Nasdaq 100 index futures also fell. Asian markets traded higher early Monday, catching up with Wall Street's rally Friday.

Analysts said the lower U.S. stock futures, however, could be a reflection of comments by Democratic lawmakers that they want to add provisions to help homeowners and others to the bare-bones approached advanced by Paulson. Congressional Democrats said, however, that they understood the need for urgency.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Unrest has investors questioning risk fundamentals

BOSTON (AP)—A financial crisis being described as the worst since the Great Depression has left investors thinking far beyond the realm of whether it's time to buy or sell. No matter how close they are to retirement, many are considering getting out of the stock market entirely by shifting to cash or even gold, believing the market is so shaky they're willing to take the potential tax and inflation erosion they'll suffer from a quick pullout. Others are staying in, even after this year's 14 percent decline to date in the Dow Jones industrial average has eaten away at what they had thought were safe portfolios. "Right now, it is just a loss on paper. If I pull out now, it becomes an actual loss," says Deborah Allen, a 51-year-old administrative assistant at a Royal Oak, Mich., school district who's trying to protect a nest egg she's relying on to take early retirement next year. Allen has about $50,000 in a retirement account, known as a 457 plan, that she plans to use in early retirement until she can draw pension benefits at age 55. But despite a conservative investment mix, the account has shrunk this year in a falling market.

Send back $8B, Lehman Brothers Europe tells parent

NEW YORK (AP)—Lehman Brothers in Europe has asked its U.S. counterpart to give back more than $8 billion that it says was trapped when Lehman's holding company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in New York a week ago. Lehman Brothers International in Europe wants the money back even though key U.S. operations will be transferred to Barclays PLC, the British bank that is buying Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc.'s North American banking business. Some clients of Lehman's European arm believe they could get back more of their money if the cash is moved back to London, and they asked a U.S. bankruptcy judge to make sure the money is not absorbed by Barclays. The money was moved to the U.S. in a routine transaction that happens over the weekends, according to a complaint filed as part of Lehman's bankruptcy proceedings. After the funds moved to the U.S. on Friday, Sept. 12, they may not have moved back, since Lehman filed for bankruptcy—the biggest in U.S. history—before dawn on the following Monday. "When Lehman filed for Chapter 11, (the money) wasn't sent to the U.K., as it's normally done," PricewaterhouseCoopers PLC's U.K. spokeswoman Emma Thorogood said Sunday. "It's owed to the U.K."

Nation

Church, football make post-Ike Sunday seem normal

ANAHUAC, Texas (AP)—Wearing jeans and rubber boots, clutching Bibles and weeping between hymns, residents of the storm-shattered Texas coast comforted each other Sunday at makeshift church services that provided more than a respite from Hurricane Ike cleanup.

About 50 people came together on a basketball court outside the Oak Island Baptist Church, just south of Interstate 10 about a mile from the tip of Trinity Bay. They sat on folding chairs or simply stood, forced outdoors by the 1-inch layer of mud left inside the single-story red brick building by floodwaters that tossed pews like matchsticks.

A demolished mobile home was still lodged among trees, many of them snapped by the storm's 110-mph winds that somehow left the church's trio of 20-foot white crosses still standing. Across the street, piles of debris had sprouted, proof of the labor undertaken since the storm blew through last weekend, and of the work yet to come.

"I know it's hard. Looking around, it's tough," the Rev. Eddie Shauberger told the congregants. "But there is a God, and he has a plan for our lives."

AP

Randall Dowdell smokes a cigarette as he listens to church service on a radio on the back of his bike in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike, in Galveston, Texas, Sunday, Sept. 21, 2008.

Similar services were being held on Galveston Island and throughout the Houston area, where power had been restored to enough residents that schools planned to hold classes Monday for the first time since the storm.

In Galveston, Bobby and Pamela Quiroga sought succor at a Mass set up in the historic Hotel Galvez. They went to their Roman Catholic church a week ago, the day after storm arrived, but it was closed.

"It's just good to be around people," Bobby Quiroga said. He added, letting his voice trail off, "When you feel a wave shake your house ...."

The newly married 42-year-olds were still trying to gather their senses eight days after watching their homes and businesses flooded by Ike's 12-foot surge.

"Fourteen steps, and we watched the water come up all the way up - even to the floor. Surreal," Quiroga said, his wife leaning on his shoulder.

She dabbed her swollen eyes with a hand towel and vowed never to live on the island again.

"When I fall asleep," she said, "I see the water rising."

Observances in the hardest-hit spots weren't overflowing with residents. Most of Galveston won't reopen until Wednesday, and it could be weeks or more before basic services are restored in all areas.

Still, the island is far from deserted —at least 15,000 people ignored mandatory evacuation orders before and after the storm, and many of them were still there Sunday. Some businesses were beginning to reopen, cell service was improving and electricity was coming back on.

Palin's first Fla. campaign stop a safe one

THE VILLAGES, Fla. (AP)—Sarah Palin played it safe Sunday on her first trip as John McCain's running mate to the battleground state of Florida.

She went to perhaps the easiest place in Florida to get a large Republican turnout, stuck mostly to the themes she's hit since the Republican convention and took no questions from reporters or the crowd.

AMERICA VOTES

But she was welcomed like a star, with tens of thousands cramming into a plaza and nearby streets in this enormous retirement community about an hour north of Orlando. Some waited more than five hours in 92-degree heat to see her speak for 23 minutes.

Palin arrived in Florida on Friday and had no public events Saturday, though she told the crowd her daughters Piper and Willow got to go to Disney World.

After some jokes about the difference between golfing in Florida and Alaska, her remarks hit most of the same points she's made since McCain chose her as the first woman to run as a Republican vice presidential nominee. She did, however, update the stump speech to reflect last week's turmoil in the financial markets.

"We need serious reform on Wall Street. We need better regulation. It's like Senator McCain said just yesterday—we don't need a dozen federal agencies doing the job badly, we need the best agencies doing the job right," she said.

She said McCain had warned about the problems affecting financial institutions, and attacked Democrat Barack Obama on the issue.

Senior citizens pursuing education from home

NEW YORK (AP)—Kathy Leeds grows animated as she describes the courses she is taking this fall, including classes in current events, art and literature.

But Leeds will never step foot on a campus or in a classroom. The 79-year-old widow has multiple sclerosis and uses a wheelchair to get around her Manhattan apartment.

Leeds is one of about 500 people enrolled for the fall semester in a telephone-based educational program for homebound seniors called DOROT University Without Walls, believed to be the largest program of its kind in the country.

The curriculum includes more than 250 courses and runs the gamut from understanding feng shui and poetry writing to discussions on moral, ethical and philosophical issues and a discourse on women of the progressive era. Informational classes on money management, Internet surfing and medicine also are available.

"It gets me out emotionally. It releases me from the four walls around me," said Leeds, who has participated in the program for 12 years. Her fall selections include a course on the life and work of author Doris Lessing and a class on recording personal histories.

AP

Kathy Leeds poses for a portrait at her apartment on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, Friday, Sept. 19, 2008 in New York. Leeds is one of about 500 people enrolled in a telephone-based educational program for homebound seniors called University Without Walls, believed to be the largest program of its kind.

States make immigration arrests under fed program

FRUITA, Colo. (AP)—State Patrol trooper Mike Jamison keeps an action figure of "The Thing" on his passenger seat—a nod to the Fantastic Four, which is what Jamison and three colleagues charged with enforcing immigration law on western Colorado's highways call themselves.

His car also has a DVD burner that documents every traffic stop he makes to provide evidence for potential immigration prosecutions—and catch any racial profiling.

"If I'm doing something wrong, and not doing what I'm supposed to be doing, I'm going to get caught," Jamison said on a recent ride-along on Interstate 70, a pipeline for immigrant smuggling from the West to Denver and cities farther east.

Colorado's state patrol is among dozens of police agencies nationwide taking advantage of a federal training program to identify and detain suspected illegal immigrants. Since the program began in 2006, these agencies have made more than 68,000 arrests for immigration-related violations, says Carl Rusnok of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

ICE has trained about 800 officers in 18 states to prepare charging documents and issue immigration detainers. Eighty training requests are pending from police departments, state patrols, sheriff's offices and corrections departments.

Colorado created its state patrol unit during a 2006 special legislative session that was sparked by the arrests of more than 100 suspected illegal immigrants in crashes and traffic stops in a two-day period.

ACROSS THE NATION

6 children in Ark. custody after raid on compound

FOUKE, Ark. (AP)—Six minors have been temporarily placed in state custody as part of a child porn investigation after a raid on a ministry run by a man who says "consent is puberty" when it comes to sex, officials said Sunday. The children will be in the custody of the Arkansas Department of Human Services as investigators interview them, state police spokesman Bill Sadler said in a statement. Sadler didn't say how long the interviews would last, but did say that courts would decide the children's status in the event of any "long-term separation" from the property of the Tony Alamo Christian Ministries in rural Fouke. He did not say how old the children were, but an e-mail that authorities inadvertently sent to media members last week referred to 12-, 13- and 14-year-old girls. The move comes after a raid Saturday by more than 100 federal and state authorities. Investigators said their two-year probe into allegations of child pornography and abuse focused on convicted tax evader Tony Alamo and his ministry, described by its critics as a cult.

2 dead in helicopter crash into Wis. house

KENOSHA, Wis. (AP)—A helicopter crashed into the roof of a house early Sunday, killing two people in the aircraft, but five people in the house were uninjured, police reported. The helicopter crashed around 5:30 a.m., about one mile south of the Kenosha Airport, police Sgt. Eric Larsen said. Fog was reported in the area at the time, but there was no immediate indication if that played a role in the crash. Visibility at 5:30 a.m. was three-quarters of a mile to a mile, National Weather Service meteorologist Chris Franks said. Gary Stielow, who lives about 100 yards from the crash site, said he woke up and heard the helicopter before it crashed. "The engine just didn't sound right," Stielow told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. "It was sputtering. It was at full power, but it was sputtering real bad. Then you just heard a loud boom." Stielow said he ran outside and saw that the family in the house had made it out safely. The bodies of the two people killed in the crash were on the ground next to the helicopter's engine, which was on fire, Stielow said.

Asia

Marriott blast shows al-Qaida signs

AP

Pakistan army troops arrive to conduct a rescue operation at the site of Saturday's massive truck bombing at Marriott hotel in Islamabad, Pakistan Sunday, Sept. 21, 2008.

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP)—Taliban militants based near the Afghan border and their al-Qaida allies are the most likely suspects behind a massive truck bombing at Islamabad's Marriott Hotel, officials and experts said Sunday. At least 53 died in the explosion, including two U.S. Defense Department employees and the Czech ambassador.

The truck sat burning and disabled at the hotel gate for at least 3 1/2 minutes as nervous guards tried to douse the flames before they, the truck and much of the hotel forecourt vanished in a fearsome fireball on Saturday night, according to dramatic surveillance footage released Sunday.

The attack on the American hotel chain during Ramadan, among the deadliest terrorist strikes in Pakistan, will test the resolve of its pro-Western civilian rulers to crack down on growing violent extremism which many here blame on the country's role in the U.S.-led war on terror.

While no group has claimed responsibility, the scale of the blast and its high-profile target were seen by many as the signature of media-savvy al-Qaida.

Interior Ministry chief Rehman Malik said "all roads lead to FATA" in major Pakistani suicide attacks—referring to Federally Administered Tribal Areas, where U.S. officials worry that Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida No. 2 Ayman al-Zawahri are hiding.

Mahmood Shah, a former government security chief for Pakistan's tribal areas, said that while the attack had "all the signatures" of an al-Qaida strike, homegrown Taliban militants probably had learned how to execute an attack of such magnitude.

Nearly 12,900 Chinese children sick from milk

BEIJING (AP)—China said Sunday the number of children sickened by baby formula tainted with the banned industrial chemical melamine has doubled to nearly 12,900 as the government confronts a scandal over widespread contamination of the milk supply.

More than 80 percent of the 12,892 children hospitalized in recent weeks were 2 years old or younger, the Health Ministry said in a statement posted on its Web site late Sunday. Four children have died.

The ministry said most of the children sickened consumed infant formula from one company, the Shijiazhuang Sanlu Group Co. The dairy is at the center of one of China's worst food safety scandals in years.

Over the weekend, the Chinese territory of Hong Kong reported the first known illness outside mainland China—a 3-year-old girl who developed kidney stones after drinking Chinese dairy products. She was discharged from the hospital, the Hong Kong government said.

In the two weeks since the government first acknowledged the contamination, it has issued recalls for dairy products from 22 companies after tests turned up traces of melamine. The Health Ministry said that most of the hospitalized were sickened by powdered milk and formula.

"The hospitalized children basically consumed Sanlu brand infant milk powder. No cases have been found from ingesting liquid milk," said the statement.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Intel officials: US copters cross Pakistan border

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP)—Two local intelligence officials say troops and tribesmen opened fire when two U.S. helicopters crossed into Pakistan from Afghanistan. Pakistan's army and the U.S. military in Afghanistan said they had no information on the alleged incident late Sunday in North Waziristan. The two intelligence officials spoke on condition of anonymity Monday because they were not authorized to speak to media. They cited field informants. A spate of U.S. crossborder operations—including a ground assault that used helicopters to ferry American commandos—has prompted official Pakistani protests in recent weeks. The U.S. is concerned that pockets of Pakistan's northwest have turned into bases for al-Qaida and Taliban militants.

RP marines rescue 2 children seized by Muslim militants

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Two children kidnapped last week by Muslim militants in the southern Philippines were rescued by marines after a brief gunbattle Sunday, a military official said. Marines captured two alleged kidnappers during the pre-dawn rescue of the two boys in a remote village in mountainous Patikul township on southern Jolo island, navy spokesman Lt. Col. Edgard Arevalo said. Alleged kidnap leader Hajal Hatae, a former member of the al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf group, managed to escape and was being hunted by marines, he said. The Abu Sayyaf, believed to have more than 300 members, has been battered by U.S.-backed Philippine military offensives in Jolo and nearby islands and has resorted to ransom kidnappings to survive. It has been weakened by battle defeats and the killings of key leaders in recent years, but remains a key security concern in the country's volatile south.

World

Iran warns vs attack on nuke facilities

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Hardline President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Sunday that Iran's military will "break the hand" of anyone targeting his country's nuclear facilities.

The president spoke during a military parade displaying various types of Iranian-made missiles, including Shahab-3 and Ghadr. Also taking part in the parade was a military truck carrying a huge banner saying "Israel should be eliminated from the universe" in both English and Farsi.

"If anyone allows himself to commit even a tiny offense against Iran's legitimate interests, borders and sacred land, our armed forces will break his hand before he pulls the trigger," Ahmadinejad said during the parade.

The phrase "legitimate interests" is Iranian parlance for the country's nuclear program, which the West says is a cover for developing nuclear weapons. Iran, which denies the charge, already is under three sets of sanctions by the U.N. Security Council over the issue.

Washington and its Western allies are pushing for quick passage of a fourth set of sanctions to underline the international community's resolve.

But Ahmadinejad said Sunday that sanctions only help Iran achieve self-sufficiency.

"Those who once imposed sanctions, today should open their eyes and see our nation's technical achievements," he said.

Both the United States and its ally Israel say they support a diplomatic solution to the nuclear standoff with Iran but cannot rule out the military option.

"Today, Iran is not in a position to show softness toward its enemies," said Ahmadinejad, but added that threats made against Iran's nuclear facilities amounted to only "psychological warfare."

Sunday's parade commemorated the start in 1980 of Iran's ruinous eight-year war with neighboring Iraq.

Meanwhile, the official IRNA news agency reported that on the sideline of the parade, the air force chief of the Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards, Gen. Hossein Salami, rejected the notion that Iran had any ambitions for nuclear weapons, describing them as "ineffective."

"Any report about Iran's intention to use nuclear weapon is a sheer lie," he said, while adding that "our missiles are able to target the enemy's points in the region."

South Africa's Mbeki resigns after power struggle

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP)—South African President Thabo Mbeki told the nation Sunday that he had resigned, having lost a power struggle to a rival tainted by allegations of corruption but poised now to lead the country.

In a somber but dignified speech focusing on the successes and shortcomings of his nine-year presidency, Mbeki said he had submitted a letter to the speaker of Parliament "to tender my resignation from the high position of President of the Republic of South Africa."

He said he would stand down at a date to be determined by Parliament, which will convene in the coming days to select an interim president to serve until next year's elections.

National Assembly speaker Baleka Mbete, who is also chairwoman of the African National Congress, is widely tipped to become the interim head of state, paving the way for Mbeki's nemesis, Jacob Zuma, to take over after the elections.

The ANC has a huge majority and is expected to romp to victory in the polls despite its upheavals.

"I am convinced that the incoming administration will better the work done during the past 14-and-half years so that poverty, underdevelopment, unemployment, illiteracy, challenges of health, crime and corruption will cease to define the lives of many of our people," Mbeki said.

Mbeki, 66, lost the final battle in the long struggle against ANC President Zuma, his former deputy, on Saturday. Mbeki was pressured to quit after a judge threw out a corruption case against Zuma earlier this month on a legal technicality and implied that Mbeki's administration had put political pressure on prosecutors.

In his television address, Mbeki said "categorically" that he had never interfered in the work of prosecutors. He said that included "the painful matter" of the Zuma case. Zuma has been under a cloud for the past eight years from allegations relating to a big arms deal.

A senior ANC official, Matthews Phosa, said the party had asked the Cabinet to remain on the job.

"We want the Cabinet to stay," Phosa said. "We want stability and we want them to stay ... but we cannot enforce things upon them," he said on South African television.

WORLD BRIEFS

US soldier accused of abusing and killing Iraqi

CAMP SPEICHER, Iraq (AP)—Military prosecutors accused a U.S. soldier Sunday of taking an Iraqi detainee to a remote desert location, stripping him naked, shooting him in the head and chest and then watching as another soldier set fire to the body with an incendiary grenade. The allegations were made at the opening hearing to determine whether there is enough evidence against 1st Lt. Michael C. Behenna for a court-martial. He has already been charged with premeditated murder of his prisoner, Ali Mansour Mohammed. Prosecutors also accuse Behenna of trying to cover up the killing. The key testimony at the hearing came from the only witness, an Iraqi translator identified only as "Harry." He said he saw Behenna shoot Mohammed on May 16 in a tunnel near their forward operating base, Summerall. The base is near Beiji, 155 miles north of Baghdad. Harry's real name was not revealed to protect his identify. He said Iraqi translators for U.S. forces are at risk of being killed by their countrymen as traitors.

Small accidents mean big trouble for supercollider

GENEVA (AP)—Scientists expect startup glitches in the massive, complex machines they use to smash atoms. But the unique qualities of the world's largest particle collider mean that the meltdown of a small electrical connection could delay its groundbreaking research until next year, scientists said Sunday. Because the Large Hadron Collider operates at near absolute zero—colder than outer space—the damaged area must be warmed to a temperature where humans can work. That takes about a month. Then it has to be re-chilled for another month. As a result, the equipment may not be running again before the planned shutdown of the equipment for the winter to reduce electricity costs. That means Friday's meltdown could end up putting off high-energy collisions of particles—the machine's ultimate objective—until 2009. "Hopefully we'll come online and go quickly to full energy a few months into 2009 so in the long term, this may not end up being such a large delay in the physics program," Seth Zenz, a graduate student from the University of California, wrote on the site of the U.S. physicists working at the European Organization for Nuclear Research, or CERN.

Overdrive

2008 BMW X6 XDRIVE35I SPORTS ACTIVITY COUPE

A sum that is less than its parts

The 2008 BMW X6 xDrive35i Sports Activity Coupe.

By Warren Brown
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

CORNWALL, N.Y.—Meditation enhances clarity. That occurred to me, sitting on the front steps here, staring at the titanium silver vehicle in the driveway. It was the 2008 BMW X6 xDrive35i Sports Activity Coupe. Its ugliness matched the length of its name, a moniker designed to hide a product development error.

That was the hard truth of it. I was looking at a rare BMW mistake, an attempt to be all things to all people. It didn't work.

The result, poised there in driveway after a 300-mile drive from Virginia, was what could be likened to an expensive Pontiac Aztek—an unattractive, confused thing of less-than-acceptable fuel efficiency, a neither-nor-mobile of suspect worth.

Consider the company's description of the X6 as the "first-ever Sports Activity Coupe." In automotive parlance, "coupe" refers to a sports car with two doors. The X6 has four side doors and a rear hatch. It is sporty. But it is more sport-utility vehicle than car, minus both the truck-like feel and overall utility of a typical SUV.

That's more than a quibble. Cars and trucks are about feeling and emotion as much as they are about driving and performance. A vehicle that so thoroughly upsets definition without ever truly defining itself, as the X6 xDrive35i does, plays with the mind and, in doing so, tinkers with the soul. It bespeaks cleverness for the sake of cleverness, which can be upsetting.

There's too much cleverness in the X6 xDrive 35i and its more powerful sibling, the X6 xDrive 50i. Both are over the top in terms of technology and market reach.

I understand what BMW was trying to do with its all-wheel-drive X6. The idea of creating an SUV with the performance of a hot coupe has some market appeal. It also has attendant risks. Coupes and trucks have different souls. It's hard to put them together and keep the spirit right. In the X6, we have conflation-turned-abomination.

The thing just doesn't look right. It has the appeal of a four-wheeled bicycle racing helmet, brilliantly aerodynamic in design but still not quite right for something with four wheels that is supposed to be evocative of a coupe.

BMW's engineers point to the X6's highway performance, which, in fact, is stunning, largely thanks to what the company calls "dynamic performance control" (DPC)—technology that electronically varies power between the two rear wheels to improve control and pulling force over different road surfaces.

DPC renders the X6 virtually slip-free and wonderfully confident on road and off, and in weather fair and foul. It greatly increases the joy of driving. But BMW, like some obsessive-compulsive teen-ager, has managed to overdo DPC, too. You can follow the power variances between the two rear wheels on a dashboard monitor. Whoopee!

Somewhere in all of this, BMW seems to have forgotten a few things. For example, most people buy specific vehicles for specific reasons. Folks shopping for sport-utility vehicles usually are looking for utility first and foremost. They are willing to sacrifice an economy car's fuel-efficiency and a sports car's handling for improved utility. People shopping for sports coupes usually aren't looking for practicality. They want a vehicle that enhances the ideal of driving—a car that embraces the allure and romance of the open road.

Satisfying all of those competing desires and needs in one vehicle at an affordable price is difficult, which is why BMW and a few of its rivals—the similarly contorted 2009 Infiniti FX35 comes to mind—have chosen to target the rich with technologically overstuffed but still not quite satisfying "crossover" vehicles. Those rides are expensive. The X6, for example, starts at $52,500 and can be packed with $20,000 more in options.

Again, that wouldn't be so bad if the thing had some discernible personality, something other than va-voom to justify its egregious consumption of required premium unleaded gasoline, which it gulps at the rate of 15 miles per gallon in the city and 20 miles per gallon on the highway.

It is not enough that X6 runs beautifully. Any vehicle equipped as it is with a 3-liter, 300-horsepower, twin-turbocharged, inline six-cylinder engine and affixed with a nearly $53,000 base price tag should run beautifully. But, for Pete's sake! It should also look good. It should have some discernible, likable personality. It should at least pretend to flirt with common sense, at least in the area of fuel efficiency.

But the X6 fails by those measures. I don't like it.

NUTS & BOLTS

By WARREN BROWN
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

COMPLAINTS
Enough said.

RIDE, ACCELERATION AND HANDLING
The X6 gets top marks in all three categories. So do most BMW automobiles. But a BMW 5-Series sedan has a definite personality. Ditto a BMW Z4 roadster. By comparison, the X6 is a troubled child in search of identity and getting woefully lost along the way.

BODY STYLE/LAYOUT
The X6 is a front-engine, all-wheel-drive, supposedly multi-purpose vehicle with four side doors and a rear hatch designed to mimic the performance of a sports coupe while delivering the usefulness of a sport-utility vehicle. BMW got it half right. There are two trim levels—the tested 35i with the six-cylinder engine and the 50i with a V-8.

HEAD-TURNING QUOTIENT
The X6 is the ugliest BMW vehicle ever reviewed by this column. It is BMW's Pontiac Aztek.

ENGINE/TRANSMISSION
The tested X6 xDrive 35i ("xDrive" stands for "intelligent all-wheel-drive") comes with a 3-liter, 24-valve, twin-turbocharged, inline six-cylinder engine that develops 300 horsepower at 5,800 revolutions per minute and 300 foot-pounds of torque at 1,400 revolutions per minute. The engine is attached to a six-speed transmission that can be operated manually via paddle shifters, or automatically.

CAPACITIES
There are seats for four people. Luggage capacity with the rear seats up is 25.6 cubic feet. Cargo capacity with the rear seats folded is 60 cubic feet. Estimated fuel capacity is 20 gallons. Premium unleaded gasoline is required.

MILEAGE
You get 15 miles per gallon in the city and 20 on the highway.

SAFETY
Head and side air bags are standard along with antilock brakes, electronic stability and traction control. Special praise goes to the "dynamic performance control" system, which greatly enhances the X6's performance over variable road surfaces.

PRICE
The base price on the 2008 X6 xDrive 35i is $52,500. Dealer's invoice price on that model is $48,300. Price as tested is $71,025, including $17,700 in options and an $825 destination charge. Dealer's as-tested price is $65,105. Prices sourced from BMW and Edmunds.com.

PURSE-STRINGS NOTE
I did not like it. Ria Manglapus, my associate in vehicle evaluations, got out of it as soon as she could. This one left us cold.

CRUISIN'

Biggest-ever Cadillac

By GREG ZYLA
(C) 2008 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: Greg, what were the biggest Cadillacs ever produced? My husband says the 1975 and 1976 full-size Cadillacs were biggest ever, both in terms of wheelbase and engine size. Is he right? -- Addie K., e-mail from Pennsylvania

A: Addie, your husband is partly correct. The 1975 and 1976 Cadillac Deville and Fleetwoods had 500 cubic-inch V-8 engines as standard equipment, making them the biggest standard V-8 engines ever available in the Cadillac line. The smaller Seville that year relied on a 350-inch engine. The 500-inch engine first appeared in 1970 in the Eldorado, with 472-inchers available in the Deville models and Fleetwoods from 1968 through 1974.

Notice I've only addressed V-8 engines, because as far back as 1930, Cadillac had a 452-inch V-16 and a 368-inch V-12 available through 1937. In 1938, Cadillac dropped the V-12 and reduced the V-16 to 431-inches. It lasted through 1939, and then it was V-8 only from there on.

As for wheelbase, the 1975 and 1976 models carried the same 130 inches that Cadillac produced back in 1959. However, in the standard Cadillac, not limo or stretched Fleetwoods or Sixty Specials, the 1930 Cadillac had a 140-inch wheelbase, making it the longest standard-size Caddy ever built. Thanks for your question.

Write to Greg Zyla in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to gzyla@ptd.net.

Life & Style

'Mad Men,' '30 Rock' take top Emmy awards

By LYNN ELBER
AP TELEVISION WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The sleek '60s drama "Mad Men" made Emmy history Sunday as the first basic-cable show to win a top series award, while the sitcom "30 Rock" and its stars Tina Fey and Alec Baldwin also emerged as big winners.

"We're all so very grateful to have jobs in this turkey-burger economy," Fey said after accepting the best comedy series trophy for her satire about a late-night TV show.

"This is the greatest job I've ever had in my life," Baldwin said of his role an a network executive.

He paid tribute to Fey, the NBC show's star and creator, as "the Elaine May of her generation."

"I thank my parents for somehow raising me to have confidence that is disproportionate with my looks and abilities. Well done. That is what all parents should do," said Fey, who also won for best actress and writing in a comedy series.

Emmy voters rewarded quality, not ratings: Many of the winners draw relatively small audiences. AMC's "Mad Men," which looks at America through the prism of Madison Avenue, is lucky to get 2 million viewers.

Glenn Close of FX's "Damages" and Bryan Cranston of AMC's "Breaking Bad" captured drama acting trophies.

Close, honored for her portrayal of a ruthless attorney, complimented her fellow nominees, including Holly Hunter and Sally Field.

"We're proving that complicated, powerful, mature women are sexy in high entertainment and can carry a show," she said. "I call us the sisterhood of the TV drama divas."

Cranston won the trophy for his role of a desperate man who turns to making drugs.

Dianne Wiest of "In Treatment" and Zeljko Ivanek of "Damages" won supporting acting honors for the drama series. Jean Smart of ABC's "Samantha Who?" was honored as best supporting actress in a comedy series, with Jeremy Piven her actor counterpart for "Entourage."

Piven took aim at the five reality hosts who helped open the ceremony in what could charitably called a rambling way, saying, "What if I just kept talking for 12 minutes—what would happen? That was the opening."

AP

Producer Matthew Weiner, along with cast and crew, accept the award for the outstanding drama series "Mad Men" at the 60th Primetime Emmy Awards Sunday, Sept. 21, 2008, in Los Angeles.

The crowd at the 60th annual Primetime Emmy Awards laughed heartily, not a good sign for the hosts, who included Ryan Seacreast of "American Idol."

Don Rickles was honored for best individual performance in a variety or music program for "Mr. Warmth: The Don Rickles Project."

"It's a mistake," Rickles said. "I've been in the business 55 years and the biggest award I got was an ashtray from the Friar's in New York."

Best reality-competition program went to "The Amazing Race," the show's sixth award. It and "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" are now tied for most consecutive awards in a best-series category.

Jeff Probst of "Survivor," one of the ceremony's masters of ceremonies, claimed the first award for best reality series host. "We feel honored to be part of this family. Thank you for letting reality in," he said.

As the evening progressed, politics went from having a cameo to a co-starring role.

"I really look forward to the next administration, whoever it is," Jon Stewart said as he accepted the best variety, music or comedy series award for "The Daily Show." "I have nothing to follow that. I just really look forward to the next administration."

Later, Stewart and Stephen Colbert, whose "The Colbert Report" won a writing trophy, teamed to present an award—and exchange banter in which they used a package of prunes as a metaphor for the upcoming presidential election.

"America needs prunes. It may not be a young, sexy plum. Granted, it's shriveled and at times hard to swallow. But this dried-up old prune has the experience we need," Colbert said.

Tommy Smothers received a commemorative writing achievement for his work on the cutting-edge and controversial "The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour" from the late '60s—and turned serious.

"It's hard for me to stay silent when I keep hearing that peace is only attainable through war. And there's nothing more scary than watching ignorance in action," he said, dedicating his award to "all people who feel compelled to speak out, and are not afraid to speak to power, and won't shut up and refuse to be silenced."

Martin Sheen, who played a president on "The West Wing," lauded television for giving America a front-row seat to real presidential campaigns. Then he urged viewers to vote for "the candidate of your choice, at least once."

The award for best TV movie went to "Recount," about the contested 2000 Bush-Gore contest.

HBO's "John Adams," about the founding father, was named best miniseries and won other awards including acting trophies for Paul Giamatti, Laura Linney and Tom Wilkinson.

The historical drama set a record for most awards, 13, including five trophies Sunday and eight previously announced. The record of 11 was held by HBO's "Angels in America," the TV academy said.

HBO was the most-honored network, with 26 awards earned Sunday and at the creative arts ceremony held earlier this month. ABC was second with 12 awards, followed by CBS, NBC and PBS with 10 each; AMC with eight, Showtime with five and Fox with four.

Death & Funeral Announcement

In Loving Memory of

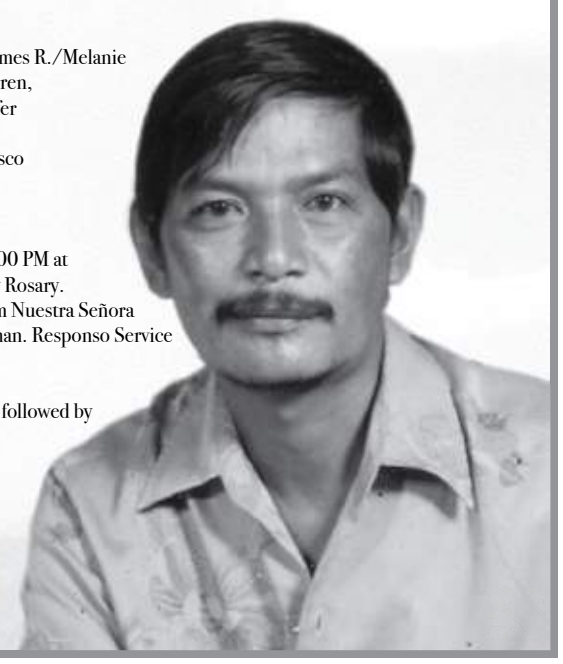
Juan Celis Cabrera

November 25, 1954-September 18, 2008

In his new life, he now joins his:

Parents:	†Leonardo Camacho Cabrera	Brother:	†Jose C. Cabrera
	†Ignacia Celis Cabrera.	Sister:	†Ana C. Cabrera
		Brother-in-law:	†Glenn D. Butterist

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his family, children, and grand children:
Josephine Camacho
Rodney C. Cabrera/Naomi M. Nishimura & Children (Dayna Jeanne & Deidre Lauren),
Rowena C. Cabrera/Robert Dela Cruz & Children (Emmanuel, Chrismae, Alvin, Zyra, Kiana),
Lora Jean C. Cabrera & Children (Lynnae, Leonard, Nathan), Juan C. Cabrera, Jr./Jaydine Ada,
Ignatia C. Cabrera/ Frank Hocog & Daughter (Junei)
Sisters, Brothers & In-laws:
Eugenia C./ Calistro S. Cepeda & Family, **Margarita C.**/ Pedro W. Torres & Family, **Victorina C.**/ Butteris & Family
Remedio C./ Vicente P. Diaz & Family, **Diana C.**/ Francisco W. Torres, **Dolores C.**/ Juan S. Camacho & Family,
Bernadita C./ Mark I. Palacios & Family
Pedro C. Cabrera/Emerina Laguisma & Family,
Jesus Teregeyo (Namba),
Rita R. Camacho, Juan R./Diana Camacho & Family, James R./Melanie Camacho & Family, Andy R./Melissa Camacho & Children, Zina R./David Nekaifes & Children, Anthony R./Jennifer Camacho & Children, Angel DLC./ Carmen Atalig, Joseph C./Melinda Atalig & Family, Cynthia C./Francisco Tudela & Family, Richard C./Jessa Atalig & Children, Angie C. Atalig & Children.



Mass of Intention is being celebrated each evening at 6:00 PM at Nuestra De Soledad Church, Kagman, followed by Holy Rosary.
On Friday, September 26, his remains will be taken from Nuestra Señora De Paz at 7:30 AM to Nuestra Señora De Soledad Kagman. Responso Service will be at 8:30 AM followed by the Holy Rosary.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 AM followed by interment Service at Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Please join us in prayers.

The Family

Tina Fey dodges acclaim, loses purse

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Isn't it just like Tina Fey to have something go haywire on the night she's recognized for her many talents?

"If anyone's seen my purse," Fey announced to reporters backstage after winning three Emmys, "I left it under my seat."

It might have been the first thing the "30 Rock" mastermind did wrong all night after picking up trophies for outstanding comedy writing, comedy series and lead actress in a comedy.

When prodded by reporters, she humbly dodged praise and questions about her contributions.

"I think our cast is diverse and talented," she said in one breath.

"We've had the greatest guest stars," she said in another.

"Alec elevates the show to another level with his abilities," she said.

She even shrugged off her resemblance to Gov. Sarah Palin, whom she won raves for portraying on the season premiere of "Saturday Night Live."

"But then my kids saw her on TV and started saying, 'Mommy?'" she said.

She was more open about her thoughts on reprising the "SNL" role. As in, she'd prefer not to.

"I want to be done playing this lady Nov. 5," she said. "So if anybody can help me be done playing this lady Nov. 5, that would be good for me."

Television comedy's Jill-of-all-trades has always been self-deprecating, mining her apparent struggle with life's chaos for her character on "30 Rock," her self-portrayal in a new series of American Express commercials and the persona she presents to the public.

But to win TV's top honors for creating, writing and starring in her own television show might've been more than even Fey can deflect. When cornered to say how she felt about the different Emmys, she finally turned off the modesty. Kinda.

"They look identical," Fey quipped. "Alec was just saying to me backstage that maybe this means I can now stop apologizing for being an actor and writing on the show. The one for the show, that really belongs to everybody, so I don't like it as much."

During his acceptance speech for lead comedy actor for "30 Rock," Baldwin noted that Fey was this generation's Elaine May, the director, screenwriter and actress who famously partnered with Mike Nichols onstage.

"We have the greatest writers, but the show was created by one woman," Baldwin said backstage. "This was Tina's idea. This was Tina's thing. She is the head writer. She is there every day, even when she's not shooting as an actress. She goes back and forth between acting and writing. We're very, very lucky."

Vignettes from 60th annual Primetime Emmy Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Television, movies, stage. They're all the same to Glenn Close, as long as the work is worthwhile.

"I kind of don't differentiate," Close said backstage Sunday night after winning the Emmy for outstanding lead actress in a drama series for "Damages."

"For me, it's where the material is and it always has been, and I am so energized and challenged and thrilled by the work that we all do together at `Damages.' It really is the ride of my career to have this magnificent part, which is as good as any part you'd find in a feature film. ... I can't wait to see where our writers take us this year."

As she spoke backstage with reporters, Close also expanded on the comments she made during her acceptance speech about "the sisterhood of the TV drama divas," actresses like Helen Mirren and Judi Dench who've inspired her by flourishing in television as well as in films and theater.

"The most important thing is going where there's great material," she said, "because that's how you grow as an artist and how you're challenged."

■■■

A VERY FINE HOUSE: Olivia Wilde plays the mysterious Thirteen on "House," but she wasn't shy about singing the praises of the Fox medical series as she arrived at Sunday night's Emmy Awards.

"Really what it is, for us I think, is acknowledging the incredible writing for the show," she said of "House," which was nominated for outstanding drama series and lead actor in a drama for star Hugh Laurie. The show won a directing Emmy for Greg Yaitanes.

"Being nominated for best drama is really a testament to the producers and the writers who've worked so hard, particularly on a show as complicated as ours, which involves a tremendous amount of research," she said. "I just feel honored to say their words every day."

So what can we expect next season from the cranky Dr. House and his staff?

"Sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll," said Wilde, who was a stunner on the red carpet in a white Reem Acra goddess dress with beaded capped sleeves. "Everything is brought to a boil."

■■■

WHO NEEDS AN EMMY?: Ricky Gervais is having a pretty good weekend, between the opening of his new movie, "Ghost Town," and his three Emmy nominations for starring in, directing and writing the HBO comedy "Extras: The Extra Special Series Finale."

"It's great. It's really weird, it's all come at once hasn't it?" he said on the red carpet before Sunday's Emmy show. "The reviews for `Ghost Town' were great, it's very exciting. And the Emmys? We'll see what happens there. I'm not holding out much hope but it's nice to be invited."

Gervais, who was passed over in the awards competition, said he felt a little outmatched in the category of lead actor in a miniseries or a movie, where his competitors were Ralph Fiennes for "Bernard and Doris," Paul Giamatti for "John Adams," and Kevin Spacey and Tom Wilkinson, both for "Recount." Giamatti was the winner.

"They put me in a film category. It's ridiculous. Up against people like Spacey," Gervais said.

Still, he looked great on the red carpet in his Calvin Klein tuxedo.

■■■

HEAT? WHAT HEAT?: Jeff Probst has traveled to some of the most miserably sweltering parts of the world as host of "Survivor."

So a little end-of-summer heat on the red carpet may have had other people sweating in their designer clothes, but not him.

"I'm thinking cool. My inner child is very cold so I'm all good," Probst said while wearing head-to-toe Armani. "When you make your living out in 115 degrees, 95 on a nice Sunday at the Emmys, piece of cake.

"Plus, I mean, it's the Emmys! Quit complaining, let's go, have some fun!"

Probst won the Emmy in the new category of best reality show host. He was up against Tom Bergeron for "Dancing With the Stars," Heidi Klum for "Project Runway," Howie Mandel for "Deal or No Deal" and Ryan Seacrest for "American Idol," all of whom served with him as co-hosts of this year's show.

Creating the category was "a real nice nod to us, and I know Tom, Heidi, Howie and Seacrest, we all feel the same way," he said before the show. "And then to ask that we host the show! A mistake, but a really nice compliment, and we're going to try to not destroy it."

■■■

A THREE HOUR TOUR: Josh Groban has made his name with his big voice and his soaring ballads. Still, Emmy night found him in some uncharted pop-culture territory: performing a montage of beloved television theme songs.

"This is a weird one tonight because it's not one of my songs," Groban said beforehand. "I have the great honor of singing some of the greatest TV themes of all time but not all of them are the same. They're very different. You've got things that are reggae, a little rap, a little country, so there's a lot of preparation that goes into it."

Groban did a montage of classic songs from the early days of television to the present, including "The Brady Bunch," "The Love Boat," "COPS," "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" and "South Park."

For two of the songs, "Rawhide" and "Gilligan's Island, he did a mash up. (Who knew they sounded so similar?)

For "The Muppet Show," he got some help on harmony vocals and drums from Animal.

■■■

PRESIDENT PALIN?: Jeremy Piven is known for being painfully outspoken as acerbic agent Ari Gold on "Entourage," a role which earned him his third consecutive Emmy for supporting actor in a comedy series on Sunday night.

But when it came time to talk politics backstage, he was a little more reticent.

When a reporter asked what he thought about the possibility of a President Palin administration - should Republicans John McCain and Sarah Palin make it to the White House and something happen to McCain - Piven hesitated a bit before answering.

"It's the bridge-to-nowhere endless loop that I keep hearing, I keep hearing," he said, a reference to a failed project in Alaska Gov. Palin's home state.

"That, and Matt Damon's quotes about that," he said, referring to his fellow actor's recent questioning of Pain's qualifications. "I wish he was here right now so he can help me."

■■■

BEVERLY HILLS GOODIES: Jessica Lowndes can't get too far away from the famous 90210 zip code these days.

The actress who plays drug-addicted high school drama student Adrianna on "90210" took a break from filming the Beverly Hills soap Saturday to pick up some swag in Beverly Hills. Lowndes landed such goodies as a gift certificate for a portrait by artist Anyes Galleani at the pre-Emmy DPA Gifting Lounge on the rooftop of the Luxe Hotel penthouse.

"I've got a lot of emotional, confrontational scenes with Shannon Doherty coming up," teased Lowndes, who said the "90210" cast and crew is currently shooting the episode eight. She also said her character's addiction will become more intense and that Adrianna will become crazier, requiring a verbal smackdown from West Beverly alum Brenda Walsh.

Earlier in the day, stars such as "30 Rock" actress Jane Krakowski and "'Til Death" co-star Joely Fisher were offered 24-karat gold facials, quartz crystal spa products and $45,000 gowns. "How I Met Your Mother" co-star Neil Patrick Harris picked up a chocolate silk throw for his bedroom.

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

Teresa Reyes Rasa

October 23,1941 – September 21, 2008

Was called home to join our heavenly Father at the age of 66.

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of Her Husband, Ricardo Cruz Rasa.

She will be greatly missed by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Gloria L. Pangelinan **Charlene-Chrsitopher Tudela**	(Christopher Shylene, Chael, Alaj)
Jaco-Sheri Masga	(Joseph)
Valerie-Health	(Garcia)
Pactrick-Desiree Masga	(Isiah)
Herculano R. and Joann I. Rasa	(Gloriana I Rasa, Herculano I Rasa Jr, Lowanda I Rasa Kaloni I Rasa, Dorian and Joelan)
Joseph R. and Evelyn Rasa	(Don, Joesph Jr., Sean, Tahj)
Christine R. and Ray Anthony Pangelinan	(Brianna,Keinalyn Christy, Ray Anthony Jr.)
Francisco R. and Levie A. Rasa	(Thomas Jake S. Castro, Ricardo Alfonce A. Rasa, DavisJohn A. Rasa, Francisco A. Rasa Jr., Annika Zeta A. Rasa)
Bertha R. Recheked	(Teresa Yvette Rasa, Waided Tellei Recheked, Kinber Athena Rasa)
Ricardo R. and Matilde H. Bermudes	(Derick Rasa, Lance Rasa, Tiara Rasa, Isabelle Rasa)

In her new life she now joins her parents: Juan Delos Reyes and Maria Flores Borja

Parents In-law: Joanes Rasa and Christina Roberto Cruz

Her remains will lies in state at Nuestra Seniora dela Paz Memorial Chapel on Beach Road, Garapan. Mass of Intention is being celebrated each evening at 6:00pm at Nuestra Señora de Soledad Church in Kagman.

On Monday, September 29, 2008, Responso Service will be at 9:00a.m. at Nuestra Señora Dela Paz Memorial Chapel.

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL WILL BE CELEBRATED AT 10:00A.M. AT NUESTRA SEÑORA DE SOLEDAD CHURCH IN KAGMAN. INTERMENT SERVICE WILL FOLLOW AT SANCTUARIO PAX MEMORIAL GARDENS IN KAGMAN.

Please join us in prayers.

The Family

Few risks and a lot of return on Emmy red carpet

Even with many looks ripped from the high-fashion runways, the risks were few on the red carpet at Sunday night's 60th annual Emmy Awards.

Still the payoffs were big for some stars. Christina Applegate, Mariska Hargitay, Julia Louis-Dreyfus and Sandra Oh were among the confident women who best combined elegance with some personality.

What else ruled the red carpet? Gowns in shades of purple; dresses with one shoulder or none; and sweeping updos that helped stars beat the Los Angeles heat. There also were black dresses, white dresses, black-and-white dresses and a lot of shine.

"Grey's Anatomy" star Oh was one of the big fashion winners, redeeming herself for time previously served on a few worst-dressed lists. Lisa Rinna, TV Guide Network's style commentator, picked Oh as the most improved star.

She came in a retro-style black lace dress by Oscar de la Renta with a ribbon sash and a few sparkles on the skirt. They matched her gleaming 5.5-carat (each!) emerald-cut diamond earrings by Bulgari.

Applegate, star of ABC's "Samantha Who?" didn't disappoint in her much-anticipated red-carpet return after breast-cancer surgery in a dramatic, sweeping gown in ice blue with metallic patches by Reem Acra.

"I think Christina Applegate was one of the best-dressed of the night," said stylist Mary Alice Stephenson. "She was glamorous, elegant and she pushed it."

Her dress also picked up on an emerging catwalk trend, the asymmetrical look. "Law & Order: Special Victins Unit" star Hargitay worked the same style in a very different way: She wore a soft one-shouldered, marigold-yellow gown by Carolina Herrera.

Another ripped-from-the-runway look was "Desperate Housewives" star Marcia Cross' nude-colored Elie Saab dress with flower appliques.

Rinna pointed out the good looks didn't melt in the heat: "It's hard to walk that red carpet when it's so hot and stay looking fresh and great—yet they all did it."

Then there were the women who went with this fall's deep, bold hues, particularly purple.

AP

Vanessa Williams arrives for the 60th Primetime Emmy Awards Sunday, Sept. 21, 2008, at the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles. Williams is nominated for outstanding supporting actress in a comedy series for her work on "Ugly Betty."

"Housewives" star Nicolette Sheridan wore a sleek strapless gown by Angel Sanchez in purple. Laura Dern did purple too; Holly Hunter of "Saving Grace" wore a plum Jenny Packham gown with a jeweled waist.

Tina Fey of "30 Rock" left her signature glasses at home, wore her hair down and chose a sexy sweetheart eggplant-colored gown by David Meister in what seemed an obvious attempt to avoid Sarah Palin comparisons.

"Lipstick Jungle" star Brooke Shields went with a bright lipstick-pink color strapless gown with a ruffle down the front and brooch on the side of her waist by Badgley Mischka.

Louis-Dreyfus, star of CBS's "The New Adventures of the Old Christine," showed off her trim figure in a salmon-colored Narciso Rodriguez dress with a fitted shiny bodice—complete with a sliver of skin showing under the bust.

Show co-host Heidi Klum, and nominee for her work on "Project Runway," had the opportunity to take the most risks: She planned no fewer than six outfits as she extended her red carpet walk in a custom Giorgio Armani Prive gunmetal metallic gown with a one-shoulder capelet to hosting duties on the broadcast.

Plenty of other stars also stayed away from colors, going for metallics or black or white.

Jennifer Love Hewitt—her hair in a bedhead bun—told E! that her white-with-black strapless gown by Carolina Herrera was an easy choice. Vanessa Williams wore a splashy white-and-black print dress by Kevan Hall with a jeweled strap that went from her shoulder to just below the waist—a look worthy of her fashion editor character on ABC's "Ugly Betty."

White was also worn by "The Closer's" Kyra Sedgwick, whose dress by L'Wren Scott featured diamond embroidery.

Olivia Wilde of "House" said of her white Reem Acra goddess gown: "I really love it—it feels very classic and flowing and beautiful. And the earrings and the ring are Kwiat, and they're just so fun to wear, I'm really having fun tonight."

The black fan club included "Betty's" America Ferrera in a bubble-hem dress and Hollywood siren-style red lipstick and "Anatony's" Chandra Wilson in a gathered Tadashi Shoji halter gown.

At the Emmys, the joke's often on the Emmy

Heard at the 60th annual Primetime Emmy Awards:

"I'm living proof, kids at home watching, that anybody can play the president."

- Paul Giamatti, accepting award for outstanding lead actor in a miniseries or movie, for playing the second president in "John Adams."

■■■

"They say actors are people who look good saying lines written by smarter, more clever people. And, in our show that is certainly the truth."

—Alec Baldwin, accepting award for outstanding lead actor in a comedy series for "30 Rock."

■■■

"I think we're proving that complicated, powerful, mature women are sexy in high entertainment and can carry a show.

—Glenn Close, who won award for lead actress in a dramatic series for "Damages," saluting her fellow nominees.

■■■

"We are like on Sarah Palin's bridge to nowhere, that's where we are right now. The government can't even bail us out of this. We have nothing."

—Emmy co-host Howie Mandel, who noted he and his co-hosts didn't have a prepared opening monologue

■■■

"What if I just kept talking for 12 minutes? What would happen? Oh wait, that was the opener."

—Jeremy Piven, razzing the reality-show hosts who opened the show after his acceptance-speech joke got few laughs.

■■■

"Being here tonight is a big thrill for me because as a kid I use to run home from school and get all dressed up and play 60th anniversary Emmy Awards."

—Steve Martin said before introducing comedian Tommy Smothers, who received an honorary Emmy.

■■■

"It's hard for me to stay silent, when I keep hearing that peace is only attainable through war. And there is nothing more scary than watching ignorance in action."

—Tommy Smothers as he accepted his honorary Emmy.

■■■

"Heeereee's Johnny!"

—Ed McMahon as Josh Groban sang a tribute to TV's top shows over the past 40 years.

■■■

"I really look forward to the next administration whoever it is. I have nothing to follow that up with. I'm just saying I really look forward to the next administration whoever it is."

—Jon Stewart, who won for best variety, music or comedy series for "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart."

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Disaster Movie

Friday		4:15	7:15	9:30
Saturday	1:10	4:15	7:15	9:30
Sunday	1:10	4:15	7:15	
Mon and Tue		4:15	7:15	

Carmen Electra, Matt Lanter
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
One fateful night, a group of ridiculously attractive twenty-somethings try to make their way to safety while every known natural disaster and catastrophic event—asteroids, twisters, earthquakes, the works—hits the city and their path as they try to solve a series of mysteries to end the rampant destruction.

★ ★ ★

Righteous Kill

Friday		4:25	7:30	9:45
Saturday	1:30	4:25	7:30	9:45
Sunday	1:30	4:25	7:30	
Mon and Tue		4:25	7:30	

Robert De Niro, Al Pacino
Action, Drama • Rated R

Synopsis
A serial murderer walks the streets of Manhattan, targeting violent felons who have fallen through the cracks of the judicial system. All the victims are suspected criminals whose bodies are found accompanied by a four line poem justifying the killing. The killer's mission is to do what the cops can't do on their own—take the bad guys off the streets for good. When a notorious pimp becomes one of the killer's victims, highly decorated detectives Turk and Rooster are called in to investigate. This case could easily be the biggest one in their 30 years on the force.

Tyler Perry's Family That Preys

Friday		4:20	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:20	7:05	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:20	7:05	
Mon and Tue		4:20	7:05	

Alfre Woodard, Sanaa Lathan
Drama, Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Wealthy socialite Charlotte Cartwright and her dear friend Alice Pratt, a working class woman of high ideals, have enjoyed a lasting friendship throughout many years. Suddenly, their lives become mired in turmoil as their adult children's extramarital affairs, unethical business practices and a dark paternity secret threaten to derail family fortunes and unravel the lives of all involved. Alice's self-centered newlywed daughter Andrea is betraying her trusting husband Chris by engaging in a torrid affair with her boss and mother's best friend's son William.

Bangkok Dangerous

Friday		4:05	7:00	9:50
Saturday	1:00	4:05	7:00	9:50
Sunday	1:00	4:05	7:00	
Mon and Tue		4:05	7:00	

Nicolas Cage, Shahkrit Yamnarm
Action, Thriller, Sci-Fi • Rated R

Babylon A.D.

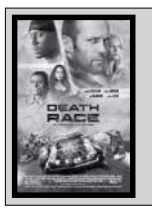
Friday		4:00	7:10	10:00
Saturday	1:15	4:00	7:10	10:00
Sunday	1:15	4:00	7:10	
Mon and Tue		4:00	7:10	

Vin Diesel, Michelle Yeoh
Drama, Thriller, Sci-Fi • Rated PG 13

Traitor

Friday		4:10	7:25	9:40
Saturday	1:20	4:10	7:25	9:40
Sunday	1:20	4:10	7:25	
Mon and Tue		4:10	7:25	

Don Cheadle, Guy Pearce
Drama, Thriller • Rated PG 13



Death Race

Friday		4:30	7:20	9:55
Saturday	1:25	4:30	7:20	9:55
Sunday	1:25	4:30	7:20	
Mon and Tue		4:30	7:20	

Jason Statham, Tyrese Gibson
Action, Thriller • Rated R

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'Lakeview Terrace' scares $15.6M out of moviegoers

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Movie-goers welcomed Samuel L. Jackson to the neighborhood, lifting his thriller "Lakeview Terrace" to the top spot at the weekend box office with $15.6 million in sales, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Jackson's tale about a cop terrorizing his new neighbors, released by Sony's Screen Gems banner, led a rush of new wide releases that generally did only so-so business.

"Obviously, as compared to like the summer season, the bar has definitely been lowered in terms of what movies are making," said Paul Dergarabedian, president of box-office tracker Media By Numbers. "This definitely is a slowdown period, as is typical for this post-summer malaise we always seem to run up against."

Debuting at No. 3 with $8.3 million was Lionsgate's romantic comedy "My Best Friend's Girl," starring Kate Hudson as a woman who comes between best buddies played by Dane Cook and Jason Biggs.

Opening in fourth place with $8 million was MGM's animated comedy "Igor," featuring the voices of John Cusack and Molly Shannon in a story of a hunchbacked lab gofer trying his hand at being a mad scientist.

The DreamWorks-Paramount supernatural romance "Ghost Town" premiered at No. 8 with $5.2 million. The film stars Ricky Gervais as an anti-social dentist besieged by ghosts, including a philanderer (Greg Kinnear) scheming to prevent his widow (Tea Leoni) from remarrying.

After doing strong business last weekend, Hollywood slipped back into the slowdown that has persisted the last two months. Overall revenues came in at $93 million, down 4 percent from the same weekend last year, according to Media By Numbers.

1. "Lakeview Terrace," $15.6 million.
2. "Burn After Reading," $11.3 million.
3. "My Best Friend's Girl," $8.3 million.
4. "Igor," $8 million.
5. "Righteous Kill," $7.7 million.
6. "Tyler Perry's the Family That Preys," $7.5 million.
7. "The Women," $5.3 million.
8. "Ghost Town," $5.2 million.
9. "The Dark Knight," $3 million.
10. "The House Bunny," $2.8 million.

A handful of films got off to good starts in limited release, among them Keira Knightley's historical pageant "The Duchess," which pulled in $202,527 in seven theaters, averaging a strong $28,932 a cinema. By comparison, "Lakeview Terrace" averaged $6,331 in 2,464 theaters.

"The Duchess," released by Paramount Vantage, stars Knightley as an 18th century ancestor of Princess Diana who finds herself trapped in a loveless marriage to an cold-hearted duke played by Ralph Fiennes.

The Warner Bros. Western "Appaloosa" took in $258,000 in 14 theaters, averaging $18,429. It stars Ed Harris, who also directed, and Viggo Mortensen as lawmen trying to clean up a corrupt Wild West town.

"Lakeview Terrace" overcame indifferent reviews to pack in solid crowds, with Jackson in full maniacal mode as a man riled by the interracial marriage of his new neighbors, played by Patrick Wilson and Kerry Washington.

AP

In this image released by Sony Pictures, Patrick Wilson and Samuel L. Jackson are shown in a scene from "Lakeview Terrace."

"He's just so cool to watch, isn't he?" said Rory Bruer, head of distribution for Sony. "He always makes things interesting."

"Lakeview Terrace" bumped off the previous weekend's No. 1 movie, Focus Features' "Burn After Reading," which slipped to second place with $11.3 million. The Coen brothers' "Burn After Reading," a spy comedy featuring Brad Pitt and George Clooney, raised its 10-day total to $36.4 million.

Delay outside Emmys after air rifle found in car

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Three people were detained Sunday after police found an aerosol rifle in the trunk of a car at a checkpoint near the Emmy Awards show.

Some of the attendees at a drop-off location outside the Nokia Theatre got out of their cars and took cover behind a wall as they arrived for the show, said police Sgt. Jerry Chaney.

"Officers observed a rifle in a trunk of a car," Chaney said. "It turned out to be an aerosol rifle, not a real rifle. It's like a BB gun."

The people taken in for questioning were planning to attend the ceremony, Chaney said.

The area where the incident took place was not where stars were dropped off by limousine, but rather where media and other attendees entered.

"The LAPD made everyone en masse get out of the cars and walk to the curb while they searched the area," said Terry Stanley, a reporter with The Hollywood Reporter. "It was at least 10 minutes and we saw two big bomb squad trucks go by. Things were obviously taken very seriously."

No one was injured and the show went on as scheduled.

The Emmy red carpet gets ready, and the fans cheer

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Before the celebrities arrive on the red carpet, there are the many with the microphones.

Fans who showed up early to get a good view of arrivals at the 60th annual Emmy Awards at Nokia Theatre had to content themselves for hours with the reporters and producers staking out turf on the carpet. But enthusiasm seemed to run high nonetheless.

Spotting fashion maven Steven "Cojo" Cojocaru of "Entertainment Tonight" in a silver tux and yellow bow tie, fan Susan Kelleher of Fairfield couldn't contain herself.

"You look fabulous!" she yelled.

"I do. I do look fabulous," he agreed.

AP

Emmy co-hosts Heidi Klum, left, Tom Bergeron, second left, Howie Mandel, Ryan Seacrest, and Jeff Probst, arrive at the 60th Primetime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles, Sunday, Sept. 21, 2008.

Kelleher also lent a big tube of sunscreen to Kelli Zink of CelebTV.com. As Zinc's producer put sunscreen on her back, Kelleher said happily to her friends, "And you didn't want to stop at the Target on the way here!"

Preparing to work the field in more covered-up attire were reporters from the Armed Forces Network, decked out in formal military dress.

U.S. Army Reserves Spc. Abby Cayanan, 25, of Los Angeles, and Lt. Col. Lee Reynolds, 45, of Long Island, N.Y., stood out in the sea of long gowns and black tuxedos.

"We don't ask the regular celebrity questions," Cayanan said. "We ask the stars to say hello to the troops overseas."

Added Reynolds: "Some celebrities protest the war, but when we talk to them here they support the troops. That's why we're out here."

Ashley Sieving, 22, a Louisiana State University student from New Orleans, and her mother, Terri, were taking in the pre-scene scene with matching cameras over their wrists.

Ashley won the chance to sit in the bleachers in a sweepstakes contest. An earlier encounter with Nicole Richie at hot spot Polo Lounge had her geared up to see the stars.

"I was just standing there and I see this tiny thing get out of black Mercedes," Ashley said. When Richie turned around, Ashley said hello and the star waved back, Ashley said.

"Just pretend like we know each other. Fake it until you make it," she said. "I couldn't even breathe."

But early on in the bleachers, she had to content herself with watching the media.

"I wish I were down there interviewing people,"she said.

Moms debate loading question in supermarket parking lots

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My women friends and I are having a disagreement about whether we should put our children in the car first, or load our groceries first. One friend says that she starts her car to cool it off, buckles her children in and then loads her groceries. Another friend insists that you should put your kids in last, so if your car gets hijacked your children won't be in the car.

However, I had my baby sitting in the front of the cart while I unloaded my groceries when another car backed up so fast that she came within an inch of hitting my baby in the cart. I let out a blood-curdling scream, and she stopped her car just in time.

Wouldn't it be easier to buckle my older child and baby in the car before unloading my groceries?

PAM IN HOUSTON

DEAR PAM: The rule of thumb should be to load your most precious cargo first. Once the children are secured, the groceries can be placed inside. The odds of your car being hijacked are far less than, say, the grocery cart with the child in it rolling away while your hands are occupied with a grocery bag, or, as you have already experienced, an inattentive driver hitting it.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My granddaughter took me to a large shopping center to buy some things I needed. While she finished her shopping, I waited in the food court, watching the crowd.

All of a sudden, a woman who had just walked by turned back, put her arms around me, gave me a squeeze and said, "You are blessed. You have saved my day." Confused, I asked, "What did I do?"

"You smiled at me," she answered, and walked away.

Abby, I'll be 99 in a few months. I have smiled all my life, but never dreamed it could make such a difference in someone's life—especially my own.

I promised myself then and there to smile a lot more, and I hope those who read this will resolve to do the same. It takes only 13 muscles to smile, and it's worth the effort. Look at yourself in the mirror and smile. See the difference?

KATHRYN OF A MILLION SMILES,
MANSFIELD, OHIO

DEAR KATHRYN: A smile is contagious. It's an acknowledgment of another person's worth, and usually an indication that the smiler feels good about him- or herself. And who's to say—it might even have something to do with your longevity. Here's hoping you'll be sharing that glow for many years to come.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Now that election time is nearing, I would like to address a question that invariably comes up this time of year. That is, people asking me who I voted for. I think this is a personal subject. I am registered with a party and support it at election time. Who I vote for is my business.

My answer is, "I voted for the person I want to win." Sometimes this is not good enough for some people, and they insist I tell who I voted for. I just repeat my answer and go on. Any advice on this?

REGISTERED VOTER IN NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR REGISTERED VOTER: I agree that it's nobody's business for whom you voted. What I find interesting is, if I answer the question and my candidate isn't the one my questioner prefers, I then hear a recitation of the other candidate's campaign slogans.

You are handling the situation correctly.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

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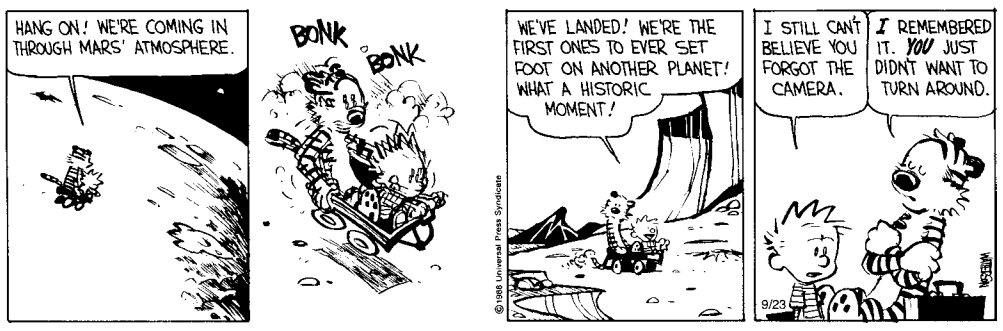
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

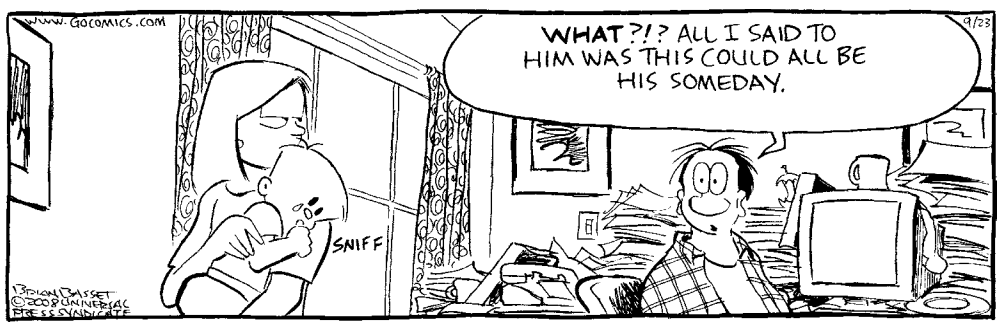

HANG ON! WE'RE COMING IN THROUGH MARS' ATMOSPHERE.
BONK
BONK
WE'VE LANDED! WE'RE THE FIRST ONES TO EVER SET FOOT ON ANOTHER PLANET! WHAT A HISTORIC MOMENT!
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FORGOT THE CAMERA.
I REMEMBERED IT. YOU JUST DIDN'T WANT TO TURN AROUND.
9/23

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

OH, OKAY. THANKS FOR LETTING ME KNOW.
THAT WAS MY BOSS. HE SAID I DID SUCH A GREAT JOB LAST WEEK...
THAT HE DOESN'T NEED ME TO COME IN ANYMORE.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Ballet leap
5 Suitcase
8 Dad
12 On
13 Before
14 "American —"
15 New Mexican tribe
16 Do figure eights, e.g.
18 Slaloms
20 Analyze grammar
21 Rhyming tribute
22 "A mouse!"
23 Bolivian metropolis
26 "Have a —!"
30 "— Yankee Doodle ..."
31 Enthusiast
32 Eggs
33 Sovereign's representative
36 Slumber
38 Mouth part
39 Coloring
40 Reacted to fireworks
43 Emulator
47 Result of "once bitten"
49 Uninteresting
50 Campsite structure
51 Storm center
52 Cupid's alias
53 Probability
54 Foolish one
55 Anger

DOWN
1 Satchmo's specialty
2 Needle case
3 Grip ice from a bucket
4 External parasites
5 Ecru
6 Curved lines
7 "Golly!"
8 Jasmine relative
9 Hebrew month
10 Cookware
11 Sheltered
17 Detail, for short
19 Wood-shaping tool
22 One (Ger.)
23 Actress Ullmann
24 Parisian pal
25 — -10 Conference
26 Aye canceler
27 Female deer
28 "Hail, Caesar!"
29 Shrill bark
31 Dandy
34 Votes into office
35 Carnival attraction
36 Morning star
37 "... nor a — be"
39 19th president
40 Director Preminger
41 Didn't pay yet
42 Rear
43 Wherefores' partners
44 Atmosphere
45 Online journal
46 Otherwise
48 Vast expanse

Solution time: 21 mins.

D	A	T	A	■	N	A	M	■	S	C	A	B
I	R	E	S	■	U	S	A	■	T	A	M	E
S	E	A	S	■	T	H	R	E	A	T	E	N
C	A	L	I	P	H	■	E	R	R	A	N	D
■	■	■	S	I	A	M	■	G	E	L	■	■
C	H	R	I	S	T	E	N	■	D	Y	E	D
B	E	E	■	A	C	L	U	E	■	S	K	I
S	W	A	B	■	H	E	I	G	H	T	E	N
■	■	■	G	O	D	■	E	S	A	U	■	■
A	M	E	N	D	S	■	A	D	M	I	R	E
T	U	N	G	S	T	E	N	■	B	R	A	Y
O	T	T	O	■	E	E	C	■	L	O	N	E
M	E	S	S	■	P	R	E	■	E	N	T	S

Yesterday's answer 9-23

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12				■	13			■	14			
15				■	16			17				
18				19			■	20				
■	■	■	21			■	22			■	■	■
23	24	25			■	26				27	28	29
30			■	■	31			■	■	32		
33			34	35			■	36	37			
■	■	■	38			■	39			■	■	■
40	41	42			■	43				44	45	46
47					48			■	49			
50				■	51				52			
53				■	54			■	55			

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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kip Pardue, 32; Matt Hardy, 34; Jason Alexander, 49; Bruce Springsteen, 59

Happy Birthday: You may find yourself at odds with what you want to do and what you should do this year. Pick a direction and follow it through to the end. Make a list of your ideas, concerns and those things that need some alterations and begin completing one at a time. Once you get started, you'll find what's ahead of you isn't so daunting. Your numbers are 7, 12, 16, 20, 28, 33, 48

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): If you oppose or confront someone, you will create a bigger than life problem that will be difficult to get past. Make home a place of comfort and peace for when things are hectic and people are causing you grief. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You can make gains today if you are willing to alter your plans. A short trip will result in information you need for something that may have seemed impossible in the past. Give-and-take will set the record straight and position you for success. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Put your heart and soul into whatever you do and you will get recognition for your effort. You will have fabulous ideas that may lead you in a whole new direction. Don't let love stand in the way of your progress. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Emotional matters will take over if you are too sensitive. Try to ignore anyone who is trying to meddle in your affairs. Verbal abuse, deception and misleading information can all be expected today. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Someone may spring something on you suddenly today. Cast your fate to the wind and enjoy the adventure. Romance is in the stars and looks most inviting. Children will play an important role in your life. Travel plans should be made. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Speak up and control the situation. Take care of matters involving the younger members of your household. An opportunity to do something worthwhile will turn into an adventure. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't give in to emotional blackmail. Walk away from any confrontation that flares up. Someone is likely to exaggerate—don't let that someone be you. A unique experience can take your mind off your worries. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Do things you know will broaden your horizons or introduce you to people who have similar interests. A change of plans will lead to a journey. Someone from your past is likely to look you up. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Getting involved in activities with friends, relatives or neighbors will make you realize how much you have to offer. Love is looking good. Ask someone you are involved with to join you or, if single, approach someone you find appealing. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't make promises you can't keep or let yourself get backed into a corner. Do what feels right, especially with legal, medical or financial matters. A sudden change in one of your old relationships or with a commitment you made will leave you feeling lucky. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Take a chance. A change to your home, life or surroundings will help you please someone you love. Don't overspend when you don't have to. Sticking to a budget will ease your stress rather than adding to it. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You will be unpredictable and exciting to be with but don't let this lead to unnecessary purchases. Just be yourself if you want to get noticed—going overboard may have a reverse effect. Someone you respect will give you some good advice. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are original, a bit of a procrastinator and lovable and fair. You are very good at delegating—a leader and a communicator.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

2		9		5			4	
								1
3	5				9	2		
8		3		1		5		
	7		9		3		1	
		2		8		3		6
		1	5				3	2
9								
	2			3		8		5

Difficulty Level ★★ 9/23

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

7	6	2	4	5	1	9	3	8
3	8	4	6	2	9	5	1	7
5	1	9	7	3	8	6	4	2
6	9	3	5	4	7	8	2	1
4	5	8	9	1	2	7	6	3
1	2	7	3	8	6	4	5	9
2	3	6	8	9	4	1	7	5
9	4	5	1	7	3	2	8	6
8	7	1	2	6	5	3	9	4

Difficulty Level ★ 9/22

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

ASIAN SNOW LEOPARDS **Solution: 7 letters**

W	H	G	U	O	T	I	B	E	T	E	R	K	A	H
Y	O	C	U	N	N	I	N	G	L	O	R	S	S	A
V	I	N	D	I	A	S	B	U	C	A	U	U	H	B
A	C	R	S	T	A	C	Z	K	D	M	B	D	Y	I
E	N	O	B	D	I	O	Y	H	A	M	W	E	B	T
H	D	D	O	S	O	E	C	R	A	H	Ⓟ	E	R	A
R	E	E	A	S	R	A	M	I	I	Ⓐ	I	F	O	T
O	R	N	R	P	O	O	C	T	Ⓔ	I	K	V	W	H
S	E	T	S	R	T	N	I	Ⓛ	S	E	A	L	N	T
E	G	S	P	S	U	S	A	W	O	P	S	I	E	L
T	N	P	A	A	H	N	A	O	N	L	O	A	A	A
T	A	V	I	T	I	P	C	O	L	D	A	T	R	E
E	D	C	A	M	O	U	F	L	A	G	E	I	S	T
S	N	N	A	G	I	L	E	L	I	T	T	E	R	S
U	E	L	E	N	G	T	H	Y	L	W	O	L	S	U

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Agile, Ambush, Animal, Approach, Ashy-Brown, Boars, Camouflage, Cats, Cold, Cubs, Cunning, Dark, Dusk, Ears, Endangered, Feed, Habitat, Heavy, Hyoid-Bone, India, Leap, Length, Litters, Marmots, Nose, Ounce, Paws, Pikas, Prey, Rocky, Rodents, Rosettes, Slowly, Snow, Spots, Stealth, Tail, Tibet, Tough, Uncia Uncia, Urial, Vast, Whitish-Tan, Woolly, Zoos

Yesterday's Answer: Pumping

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff,
NANCER W. MARTIN and JACINTA C. MARTIN, Defendants

CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0088

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant on an Order issued by the Court in this matter on June 4, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 010 K 169, situated in Dandan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an are of 933 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 010 K 01 dated August 19, 1987, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 98-2012, the description therein being incorporated herein by this reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Wednesday, October 1, 2008, at the hour of 1:30p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obatained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 29th day of August, 2008

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE
Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff,
JEREMY M. MENDIOLA and AGNES ANN TEREYAMA MENDIOLA, Defendants

CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-257

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant on an Order issued by the Court in this matter on June 4, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 026 K 48, situated in lower Dandan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an are of 816 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 026 K 03, dated December 15, 1992, Commonwealth Recorders's File No. 92-3822, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Wednesday, October 1, 2008, at the hour of 1:30p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obatained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 29th day of August, 2008

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE
Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff,
LUCINDA ROSA L. ROSARIO, Defendants

CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-422

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant on an Order issued by the Court in this matter on June 4, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 011 G 1302, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an are of 931 square meters, more or less, as shown on DLS Check No. 011 G 24 dated December 9, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 96-2567, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Wednesday, October 1, 2008, at the hour of 1:30p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obatained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

NY staves off elimination in Yankee Stadium farewell

NEW YORK (AP)—Mariano Rivera finished what Babe Ruth started 85 years ago, and New York bid farewell to Yankee Stadium with a 7-3 victory over the Baltimore Orioles on Sunday that prevented postseason elimination—at least for a day.

A loss would have officially ended New York's run of 13 straight playoff appearances, and a Boston win Monday night against Cleveland would still do the trick.

Johnny Damon and Jose Molina homered to back Andy Pettitte (14-14), a fitting winner after he helped pitch New York to four World Series titles and six American League pennants from 1996-2003.

Joba Chamberlain worked 1 2-3 hitless innings and Rivera closed out the final regular-season home game before New York moves next year into a $1.3 billion palace rising across the street.

Molina, filling in for Jorge Posada and batting ninth, hit a two-run shot off rookie Chris Waters (3-4) in the fourth to give New York a 5-3 lead.

Red Sox 3, Blue Jays 0

At Toronto, David Ortiz hit a two-run homer, Daisuke Matsuzaka remained unbeaten on the road and Boston beat Toronto to clinch at least a tie for the AL wild-card.

Boston (91-64) needs one more win or a New York loss to secure its fifth playoff berth in six seasons. The Yankees stayed alive by beating Baltimore 7-3 on Sunday night in the final game at Yankee Stadium.

The Red Sox return to Fenway Park on Monday to close the regular season with a seven-game homestand, including four against Cleveland and three against the Yankees.

Angels 7, Rangers 3

At Arlington, Texas, John Lackey gave up two hits and struck out a career-high 12 in six shutout innings, Mark Teixeira and Sean Rodriguez homered, and Los Angeles completed a three-game sweep of Texas.

Lackey (12-4) walked three and allowed only two runners to reach third as the AL West champs continued their playoff tuneup.

Scott Feldman (5-8) allowed six runs and eight hits in six innings to take the loss

White Sox 3, Royals 0

At Kansas City, Missouri, John Danks and two relievers combined on a four-hitter and Paul Konerko hit a two-run homer as AL Central-leading Chicago beat Kansas City.

The victory enabled the White Sox to remain 2 1/2 games in front of Minnesota, which won at 4-1 at Tampa Bay. The White Sox open a three-game series on Tuesday at Minnesota that will likely determine the American League Central crown.

Twins 4, Rays 1

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Francisco Liriano allowed one run over seven innings to lead Minnesota past Tampa Bay.

Minnesota, which got a total of just 6 1-3 innings from its starters during the first three games of the series, split the four-game set with the AL East-leading Rays, who clinched at least a wild-card spot on Saturday.

Liriano (6-3) scattered five hits, helping Minnesota complete a long road trip with a 4-6 record.

Indians 10, Tigers 5

At Cleveland, Ryan Garko went 4-for-4 with five RBIs, rookie Scott Lewis won his third straight start and Cleveland moved over .500 for the first time in more than four months with its sixth straight victory over sloppy and seemingly disinterested Detroit.

Garko hit a three-run triple in the first inning off Dontrelle Willis (0-2), added a sacrifice fly in the fourth and a RBI double in the seventh as the Indians won their final home game and completed a sweep of the testy three-game series that began with a benches-clearing brawl on Friday.

Athletics 5, Mariners 3

At Oakland, California, Jack Cust hit a two-run home run in the eighth inning and Oakland beat last-place Seattle to complete a three-game sweep.

Aaron Cunningham's pinch-hit, two-run double against Miguel Batista (4-14) in the seventh tied it and the A's earned their fourth season series win against the Mariners in five years. Bobby Crosby also drove in a run for the A's.

AP
Former New York Yankees catcher Yogi Berra stands with Cheryl Howard, daughter former Yankee catcher Elston Howard, during ceremonies at Yankee Stadium in New York on Sunday, Sept. 21, 2008.

Phillies 5, Marlins 2

At Miami, Jamie Moyer pitched six sharp innings for the Philadelphia Phillies to beat the Florida Marlins 5-2 and increase their lead in the National League East division to 1 1/2 games over the New York Mets.

At 45, Moyer (15-7) is the oldest player in the majors. Five relievers finished, with Brad Lidge closing for his 40th save in 40 chances.

The Phillies won for the ninth time in 10 games. They return home for the final week—three games against Atlanta and three against Washington.

Chase Utley hit his 32nd home run, his first since Aug. 22, and Pedro Feliz added his 14th. The Phillies set a franchise record by hitting a homer in their 17th straight game.

Braves 7, Mets 6

At Atlanta, Scott Schoeneweis and the New York bullpen blew another late lead, with Atlanta rallying for four runs in the eighth inning and a win that stalled New York's playoff push.

The Mets' lead in the wild-card race was cut to 1 1/2 games by Milwaukee, which beat Cincinnati 8-1.

Down 4-3, Atlanta struck in the eighth against Schoeneweis (2-5) and three relievers. It was the latest collapse for a beleaguered bullpen missing injured closer Billy Wagner.

Carlos Delgado hit a two-run homer in the Mets ninth off Mike Gonzalez.

Giants 1, Dodgers 0

At Los Angeles, Rich Aurilia hit a two-out, RBI single in the 11th inning for San Francisco, trimming the Los Angeles' lead in the NL West to 2 1/2 games over Arizona.

The loss was just the fifth in 21 games for the Dodgers. Any combination of five Los Angeles wins or losses by the Diamondbacks will give the Dodgers their first division title since 2004.

The Giants retired the last 16 Los Angeles batters in order after Blake DeWitt's two-out single in the sixth.

Diamondbacks 13, Rockies 4

At Denver, Chris Young drove in four runs and Arizona kept its postseason push going.

Young hit a single in the first inning, a solo homer in the second and a three-run triple over Ryan Spilborghs' outstretched glove in the fifth.

The Diamondbacks center fielder had two more shots to get the cycle with a double, but he drew a walk in the seventh and lined sharply to Colorado third baseman Jeff Baker in his final at-bat in the ninth.

Brewers 8, Reds 1

At Cincinnati, Prince Fielder homered and drove in three runs, helping Milwaukee end one of its most bizarre weeks in its history with a victory that provided little solace for a fading team.

The Brewers won for only the fifth time in 20 games, a September self-destruct that has made them a long shot for the playoffs.

Fielder, who struck out with the bases loaded to end Saturday's 4-3 loss, hit his fifth home run during a 12-game hitting streak. He also had a two-run double.

Todd Coffey (1-0) escaped a bases-loaded threat in the fourth, then stared toward the announcing booths so intently as he walked off the mound that he went off course. The reliever was booed by fans and harshly criticized by a Reds broadcaster when he pitched in Cincinnati.

Cubs 5, Cardinals 1

At Chicago, Ryan Dempster earned his 17th victory as Chicago kept on winning a day after clinching the NL Central title, beating St. Louis in their regular-season wrapup at Wrigley Field.

The victory means the Cubs need one more win to ensure home-field advantage throughout the NL playoffs.

The Cubs used mostly reserves except for slumping Kosuke Fukudome, who hit leadoff so he could get more at-bats and try to get out of his funk—he had two hits and also made a strong throw from right field to cut down a run.

Astros 6, Pirates 2

At Pittsburgh, Roy Oswalt held Pittsburgh to one run in six innings and backup catcher Brad Ausmus drove in two runs to lead Houston to the win.

Miguel Tejada had three hits and drove in a run for the Astros.

Padres 6, Nationals 2

At Washington, Adrian Gonzalez's 35th homer and Kevin Kouzmanoff's three RBIs backed Cha Seung Baek's strong start, and San Diego swept a three-game series between the NL's worst teams.

It's the first road sweep by San Diego since July 2006, at Dodger Stadium.

Baek (6-9) allowed one run over seven innings.

Yankee Stadium going, going, gone after 85 years

NEW YORK (AP)—Even Yogi Berra knew this was the end. As baseball said farewell to Yankee Stadium, one of the game's most beloved players stood beneath the stands in a full vintage uniform. Now 83, the man who coined the phrase "it ain't over till it's over" put his own stamp on the day.

"I'm sorry to see it over, I'll tell you that," Berra said.

The goodbye completed an 85-year-old run for the home of baseball's most famous team. What began with a Babe Ruth home run on an April afternoon in 1923 ended Sunday with Mariano Rivera retiring Brian Roberts on a grounder to first baseman Cody Ransom, completing a 7-3 victory over Baltimore on a warm September night.

Johnny Damon and Jose Molina homered, Andy Pettitte got the victory and Rivera threw the final pitch at 11:41 p.m. on a bittersweet evening, when the Yankees staved off what appears to be inevitable postseason elimination. Appropriately enough, the final Yankees player to bat was Derek Jeter, whose grounder to third ended the eighth. Jeter was removed with two outs in the ninth, leaving the captain to take the final in-game curtain call.

But first, all the greats were remembered during a 65-minute pregame ceremony that included 21 retired players, six of them Hall of Famers.

"I feel like I'm losing an old friend," Reggie Jackson told the crowd.

Bob Sheppard, the 90-something public address announcer who started in 1951, read the opening welcome. He missed this season because of illness but recorded his greeting and the introduction of the Yankees starting lineup.

The 1922 American League pennant, the first to fly in the ballpark, was unfurled in the black batter's eye beyond center field. Young men and boys were introduced representing the opening-day lineup in 1923.

Then came the living Yankees who make the stadium a standard for excellence.

Willie Randolph slid into second base when he was announced. Fan favorite Paul O'Neill pointed to the Bleacher Creatures in right field. Bernie Williams, back at the ballpark for the first time since the Yankees cut him two years ago, received the longest ovation, which lasted nearly 2 minutes. Don Larsen scooped up dirt from the pitcher's mound in a plastic cup, assisted by Whitey Ford.

Accompanying them were the sons of some deceased stars: Mickey Mantle, Roger Maris, Billy Martin and Thurman Munson, joined by the wives of Catfish Hunter, Bobby Murcer and Phil Rizzuto, the daughter of Elston Howard and Murcer's son and daughter.

No mention was made of Roger Clemens, whose legacy has been clouded by accusations he used performance-enhancing drugs. George Steinbrenner, the team owner since 1973, did not attend.

Julia Ruth Stevens, 92-year-old daughter of the Babe, threw out the ceremonial first pitch before a crowd of 54,610—bringing the stadium total to 151,959,005.

"I'm very, very sad to think that the Yankee Stadium is not going to be in existence any longer," she said. "I wish it could have remained as a New York landmark, but I guess like all things it has come to its final days as we all do."

Jeter received a crystal bat for breaking Lou Gehrig's record for hits at Yankee Stadium earlier in the week. There were so many cameras popping when Pettitte threw the real first pitch, Roberts seemed startled and didn't even try to swing.

Outside the stadium, the marquee that usually has the day's start time and opponent said: "Thanks for the Memories."

When Damon hit a three-run homer in the third inning, the ball was caught by Brian Elmer, salesman from Trenton, N.J.—and a Mets fan.

"This is my first time here," he said.

Dolphins end Patriots' record winning streak

FOXBOROUGH, Massachusetts (AP)—Ronnie Brown and the lowly Miami Dolphins ended the Patriots' record winning streak at 21 and made New England's defense look as shaky as its Tom Brady-less offense Sunday.

Brown scored a team record four touchdowns rushing and threw for another—with four of the scores coming on direct snaps to the running back—as Miami stunned New England 38-13.

The loss ended the Patriots' NFL mark that began after a 21-0 loss to the Dolphins on Dec. 10, 2006 in which Brady was sacked four times. It also ended New England's chance for a second straight unbeaten regular season.

The Dolphins, who lost their first 13 games last year and finished 1-15, won for just the second time in 22 games. It was the first victory for first-year coach Tony Sparano, and it was a stunner.

Bills 24, Raiders 23

At Orchard Park, New York, Rian Lindell hit a 38-yard field goal as the clock ran out after Trent Edwards engineered three scoring drives in the final quarter to help Buffalo twice overcome 9-point deficits in the last 8 minutes.

Edwards finished 24-of-39 for 279 yards and a touchdown a week after he rallied the Bills to a 20-16 win at Jacksonville. That the victory came against the hard-luck and dysfunctional Raiders (1-2) didn't matter for a Bills team off to its first 3-0 start since 1992.

Giants 26, Bengals 23, OT

At East Rutherford, New Jersey, John Carney kicked a 22-yard field goal with 8:39 left in the extra session as New York (3-0) got off to its best start since 2000.

The play that set up the winning kick was a 31-yard pass from Eli Manning to Amani Toomer down the left sideline on a third-and-10 from the Bengals 38. It was difficult to tell whether Toomer got both feet in bounds. The Giants hustled to the line of scrimmage and handed the ball to Derrick Ward for a 3-yard run to the Bengals 4, precluding a video review.

Cowboys 27, Packers 16

At Green Bay, Wisconsin, Marion Barber ran for a career-high 142 yards and a touchdown, and rookie Felix Jones added a 60-yard touchdown run in the second quarter. Miles Austin, a backup who plays mostly on special teams, sealed the win with a 52-yard touchdown reception in the fourth quarter.

Tony Romo was 17-of-30 for 260 yards and Terrell Owens was held to two catches for 17 yards as Dallas (3-0) joined the reigning Super Bowl champion New York Giants as the NFC's only undefeated teams.

AP

Miami Dolphins running back Ronnie Brown runs for a 62-yard touchdown past New England Patriots' Deltha O'Neal (21) and Rodney Harrison during the fourth quarter of the Dolphins' 38-13 win in an NFL football game at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Mass., Sunday, Sept. 21, 2008.

Buccaneers 27, Bears 24, OT

At Chicago, Brian Griese set up Matt Bryant's winning 21-yard field goal in overtime with a 38-yard pass to Antonio Bryant.

After blowing a 14-point lead in a 20-17 loss at Carolina last week, the Bears (1-2) couldn't protect a 24-14 advantage in the fourth quarter.

The Buccaneers got a 35-yard field goal from Bryant with 3:11 left, and Griese orchestrated a 79-yard touchdown drive in the final 1:49, hitting Jerramy Stevens with a 1-yard pass in the closing seconds of regulation.

After Tampa Bay (2-1) punted in overtime, Rashied Davis dropped a third-down pass at the Buccaneers 35. Tampa Bay then took over at its 7 and had third-and-9 at the 8 when Griese hit Stevens with a 2-yard pass.

Jaguars 23, Colts 21

At Indianapolis, Josh Scobee saved the game—and perhaps the season—by making a 51-yard field goal with 4 seconds left after wearing out the Indianapolis defense on the ground.

It didn't look like Jacksonville (1-2) would need Scobee's boot after consuming more than 12 minutes on a marathon drive to open the fourth quarter capped by Scobee's 21-yarder for a 20-14 lead with 2:33 left.

But Peyton Manning nearly pulled off his second improbable comeback in two weeks. The two-time league MVP needed just 1:26 to take the Colts 77 yards before giving the ball to Joseph Addai for a 2-yard TD run.

Broncos 34, Saints 32

At Denver, Martin Gramatica's 43-yard field goal try with 1:55 remaining went wide right to allow Denver to improve to 3-0 for the first time in five years.

New Orleans (1-2) never led, but made a game of it after falling behind 21-3 early in the second quarter with Drew Brees completing 39 of 48 passes for 421 yards and a touchdown, and Reggie Bush piling up 178 all-purpose yards and two TDs.

Brandon Marshall led the Broncos with six receptions for 155 yards.

Eagles 15, Steelers 6

At Philadelphia, after Brian Westbrook limped off the field in the first half and quarterback Donovan McNabb missed part of the third quarter, Philadelphia's defense had nine sacks, forced a safety and got three turnovers.

Ben Roethlisberger had no time to throw and Willie Parker couldn't find any room to run. Juqua Parker had 2 1/2 sacks as the Eagles (2-1) banged around Big Ben, eventually knocking him out of the game.

Westbrook injured his right ankle on the first play of the second quarter. The All-Pro running back appeared to get hurt while hurdling a teammate on a 2-yard run.

49ers 31, Lions 13

At San Francisco, Frank Gore rushed for 130 yards and a touchdown, and Mike Martz's new offense methodically chewed up his former team's defense.

Isaac Bruce and Delanie Walker caught TD passes from J.T. O'Sullivan, and kick returner Allen Rossum scored a 1-yard TD rushing on fourth down near the goal line to all but clinch the win for San Francisco, which is 2-1 for the second straight season.

Seahawks 37, Rams 13

At Seattle, Julius Jones ran for 140 yards on 22 carries and T.J. Duckett had his first two-touchdown rushing day in four years as Seattle sidestepped six injuries at wide receiver and rolled over the malfunctioning St. Louis.

Despite a mostly disappointing September, Seattle (1-2) headed into its off week with the promise of a return to health while just one game out of the NFC West lead. The Seahawks have won the last four division titles.

Ravens 28, Browns 10

At Baltimore, the Ravens turned two of Derek Anderson's interceptions into a pair of touchdowns during a 50-second span of the third quarter.

Ed Reed returned one of the interceptions 32 yards for a score, and Le'Ron McClain scored his first two NFL touchdowns on a pair of 1-yard runs—both during a 21-point third quarter that turned a 3-point halftime deficit into a 28-10 lead.

Back from a knee injury, Willis McGahee rushed for 64 yards and a score for the Ravens (2-0), who were forced to take last week off when Hurricane Ike postponed their game at Houston.

Vikings 20, Panthers 10

At Minneapolis, Antoine Winfield's sack of Jake Delhomme and subsequent 19-yard fumble return for a touchdown right before halftime spurred Minnesota, handing Florida its first defeat.

Replacing Tarvaris Jackson after a pair of woeful games by the offense, Gus Frerotte might have helped save the season for Minnesota (1-2) by completing 16 of 28 passes for 204 yards, with a touchdown to Visanthe Shiancoe. The 37-year-old wasn't very sharp in the first half, but he made some crisp throws down the stretch to keep the Vikings in front.

Titans 31, Texans 12

At Nashville, Tennessee, LenDale White ran for two touchdowns, Kerry Collins threw for another and Tennessee rolled to improve to 3-0 for only the third time in franchise history.

The Titans last won their first three games in 1999—their first season in their current stadium—and in 1991 while still in Houston and playing as the Oilers. They have beaten the team that replaced them in Houston seven straight times and 11 of the 13 games in this series.

The Texans (0-2) wanted to provide an emotional boost to their hometown, where most people remain without power more than a week after Hurricane Ike hit. The hurricane forced the postponement of the Texans' home opener.

Redskins 24, Cardinals 17

At Landover, Maryland, Carlos Rogers returned a tipped interception to Arizona's 15-yard line. Two plays later, Santana Moss took a receiver screen for a 17-yard touchdown that gave the Redskins victory.

Jason Campbell completed 23 of 31 passes for 193 yards with two touchdowns. He has yet to throw an interception this season, and the Redskins' no-turnover day kept Warner and the Cardinals in poor field position throughout the game.

Clinton Portis ran 21 times for 68 yards and a touchdown for the Redskins (2-1), who have won two straight since coach Jim Zorn lost his debut game.

Falcons 38, Chiefs 14

At Atlanta, Michael Turner ran for three touchdowns and the Falcons scored the first 24 points, giving the Chiefs their 12th straight loss.

Turner had scoring runs of 4, 1 and 2 yards, his first game with three touchdowns rushing, while leading the Falcons with 104 yards on the ground. Jerious Norwood added 75 yards rushing.

NBA BRIEFS

Celtics' Miles suspended 10 games

NEW YORK (AP)—Boston Celtics forward Darius Miles has been suspended without pay for 10 games for violating the terms of the anti-drug program at the end of the 2007-08 season. Miles' suspension will begin with the first game of the 2008-09 regular season for which he is eligible and physically able to play. Miles has missed the past two NBA seasons because of knee injuries. He has averaged 10.6 points and 5.2 rebounds in his career. The 26-year-old was selected third overall by the Los Angeles Clippers in the 2000 draft. He signed with the Celtics last month.

Cuban posts, removes e-mails on Josh Howard

DALLAS (AP)—Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban says forward Josh Howard realizes his comments about the national anthem were wrong and the player has apologized. In his online blog, Cuban also responded to e-mails he has received commenting on the player's remarks by saying Howard "will work with us" and "beyond that, it's a private issue." Cuban posted a number of the inflammatory replies on his blog Thursday night, with the apparent e-mail addresses of the senders. But by Friday night, Cuban's remarks slugged "Thanks for the advice on Josh" had been removed from the blog and replaced with a posting saying "I made my point." Howard's comments, in a video posted on the Web site YouTube, show him on a football field at a charity flag football game. As the national anthem plays in the background, Howard approaches a camera and says: "'The Star-Spangled Banner' is going on right now. I don't even celebrate that (expletive). I'm black." Some e-mails that Cuban posted made blatant racist remarks about Howard. Others suggested Howard should move to another country, be fined or fired. Cuban's updated response said his original posting was "the right thing to do," but he says it left him with an upset stomach all day Friday. "I thought it was important to point out the hatred and ignorance of so many who quickly judge people they have never met, based purely on soundbites and headlines," Cuban wrote late Friday. "I wanted to point out the irony of them experiencing the onslaught of attention from suddenly and unexpectedly being placed in the media spotlight from a throw-away comment." Cuban said he knew those e-mailers would be receiving "the same level of hate, ignorance and judgment as Josh had and that's what bothered me all day." Cuban ended by saying: "Hopefully something good came from it being posted."

US

From Page 28

ing crowd and their Kentucky heroes on Sunday to take back the Ryder Cup with a 16 1/2-11 1/2 victory, their biggest margin over Europe in 27 years.

This Ryder Cup was all about role reversal.

It was the Americans who played as a team, with Azinger splitting them into three pods of personalities and keeping them together from the time they arrived at Valhalla.

The biggest putts belonged to the Americans, whether it was Hunter Mahan making one from 60 feet across the 17th green or Kentucky native Kenny Perry making just about everything in the defining moment of his career.

They even found someone to get under Sergio Garcia's skin - Anthony Kim, who refused to concede anything, revved up the crowd and handed Europe's best Ryder Cup player his biggest loss.

The biggest change of all?

Those were Americans huddled around Azinger on the stage at closing ceremonies, stretching to touch that 17-inch chalice.

"Their team was more of a European team," Padraig Harrington said.

They sure got a European result.

"I've been on the other side when they made the winning putt and it's no fun" said Jim Furyk, whose 2-and-1 victory over Miguel Angel Jimenez gave the Americans the final point they needed. "I had a pretty rotten look on my face during this press conference. And now, I'm pretty damn happy."

Perry, the 48-year-old native son who dreamed of playing a Ryder Cup before a Bluegrass crowd, delivered a 3-and-2 victory that was part of an early push that swung momentum toward the U.S. team.

"I figured this was going to define my career," he said. "But you know what? It made my career."

J.B. Holmes, legendary in these parts for making his high school team in tiny Campbellsville as a third-grader, showed off his awesome power with two final birdies that set up the Americans for victory.

For all the birdies and spectacular shots over three inspirational days at Valhalla, the Ryder Cup ended with handshake.

Jimenez conceded a short par putt, giving Furyk a 2-and-1 victory and the Americans the 14 1/2 points they needed to show they can win on golf's biggest stage—and without Woods, out for the year with a knee surgery but staying involved by text messaging Azinger throughout the final day.

"They just took an everything-to-gain attitude into this competition," Azinger said. "And I couldn't be happier."

This truly was a team effort.

Kim set the tone with a 30 on the front nine that demoralized Garcia. Weekley galloped off the first tee using his driver as a toy horse, drawing laughter for his antics and cheers for his five birdies and an eagle he holed from the bunker.

Mahan, who criticized the Ryder Cup earlier this year as a money-making machine, was the only player to go all five matches without losing at Valhalla. His match was the only one to reach the 18th green, all because of a 60-foot birdie putt from Mahan that slammed into the back of the cup on the 17th hole.

He wound up with a halve against Paul Casey, and a new appreciation for this event.

"It's an incredible, incredible experience," said Mahan, who went 2-0-3 and tied a U.S. record for most points as a captain's pick. "I wish every golfer could experience this, because it's amazing."

Ben Curtis and Chad Campbell, the final player picked for this U.S. team, won the final two matches against Lee Westwood and Harrington for a lopsided score that for the last three years had been posted in European blue.

It was the largest margin of victory for the Americans since 1981.

Despite his misfit collection of stars—from the backwoods Weekley to the street-smart Kim—perhaps no one made a greater impact on the U.S. victory than Azinger.

It was his idea to overhaul the qualifying system, which he felt was keeping the Americans from fielding their best team. He also doubled his captain's picks, and those four players produced one-third of the points.

And those six U.S. rookies? They went 9-4-8.

"I poured my heart and soul into this for two years," Azinger said, his voice cracking. "The players poured their heart and soul into this for one week. They deserved it. I couldn't be happier."

European captain Nick Faldo won't get off that easy.

The British press blistered him for benching Garcia and Westwood—the most successful European tandem—on Saturday, the first time either of them had ever missed a match in the Ryder Cup. Even more peculiar was putting three of his strongest players at the bottom of the lineup—Ian Poulter, Westwood and Harrington.

The Ryder Cup was decided as their matches were in progress. Their points never had a chance to matter.

"I'm disappointed for the guys," Faldo said. "We've all given 100 percent. I will decide how long I wish to think about it."

Faldo at least was validated by taking Poulter, who had only two top 10s all year. The brash Englishman was the only European to play all five matches and went 4-1, tying the record for most points by a European captain's pick set last time by Westwood.

Even so, the biggest surprise was Europe's best players.

Garcia and Westwood failed to win a match for the first time in the Ryder Cup. Harrington, coming off a summer in which he won the British Open and PGA Championship, has gone nine consecutive matches without winning. He is 0-7-2 the last two times.

Down early in eight matches, Europe chipped away, however, until it was clear the Ryder Cup could down to a big-hitting rookie.

Holmes was all square with Soren Hansen after they traded birdies through the 15th hole and tension began to build. Holmes tugged on his black glove, waggled his driver and hammered a tee shot on the 511-yard 16th that set up a birdie and a 1-up lead.

On the next hole, he sent another powerful drive well to the left, but it bounced up a slope, through the gallery, over a cart path, and kept right on rolling back into the short grass. His wedge spun back to 3 feet to set up the victory.

CHANGE

From Page 28

beating New Zealand, 56-47. Tahiti placed sixth. Fiji was ranked fourth behind third placer New Caledonia.

Since this will be the first time that the CNMI will be sending a women's team in the FIBA Oceania youth caging, Rangamar said he has not set goals for her cagebelles saying these may just add pressure to them.

"All I ask from them is go out there, play what you were thought to play. Rely on your skills, follow the basics of the sport, and enjoy the opportunity of playing against some of the best players in the region," Rangamar said.

The CNMI Women's Junior Nationals are composed of Dion Diaz, Glorily Williams, Jacqueline Wonenberg, Li'Amwar Rangamar, Mercedes Mesa, Nicole Lebria, Nikita Hofschneider, Noelle Calvo, and twin sisters Yvette and Yvonne Bennett.

Tahiti will be led by 2006 Oceania All-Stars Alizee Lefranc, who was the top scorer for Tahiti in the youth tournament in New Zealand, two years ago. Joining her on the team are Haamoe Voirin, Heiura Nena, Herevaea Hamblin, Hinahei Itae-Taata, Oceeane Lefranc, Poenui Tehaamoana, Vairani Tehamoana, and Vanina Potiron.

The Oceania youth caging will run from Sept. 28 to Oct. 4 at the University of Guam Fieldhouse in Mangilao.

The CNMI cagebelles are in Pool A of the women's division, joining Australia, Fiji, and Tahiti. Pool B is composed of Guam, New Caledonia, Palau, and Papua New Guinea.

Preliminary games in each pool will run from Sept. 28 to 30.

All four teams in each pool will advance to the double-elimination playoffs which will start on Oct. 2. The semifinals matches are scheduled for Oct. 3, while the finals game is set for Oct. 4.

THEA

From Page 28

tended set, Minor lost steam in the second set and bowed to Shannon anew, 4-6. Shannon eventually won the tournament, downing Tarani Kamoe in the finals, 6-1, 7-5.

With her semifinals finish in the 13-14 age group competition, Minor was seeded third in the Dames 17-18 division.

Minor dueled New Caledonia's Zoe Letournelx in the first round and prevailed in two sets with an impressive 6-0, 6-0 victory.

The CNMI bet was then paired with Fiji's Maria Tere Apisah in the semifinals. The Fiji netter easily defeated Minor in the first set, 6-1. But the Commonwealth's junior netter gave Apisah a tough fight in the second set before bowing out, 7-6.

Apisah won the division, topping Anais Robert in the title match, 7-5, 6-2.

Minor was invited to play in New Caledonia after making it to the semifinals of the 2008 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji last month. She stayed in Fiji until the first week of September to prepare for the tournaments in New Caledonia.

Minor arrived in the French territory on Sept. 10 and joined New Caledonia players in extensive training sessions.

Minor's mother, Joy said the training sessions in New Caledonia were very tough and players there were much taller and heftier.

"Thea told us in the first day of the training session, she was asked to run six kilometers. She is not used to it so she made stops. The next day, she completed the six-kilometer run without stopping because the last time she took a break, other players were looking at her," the older Minor said in a telephone interview with the *Saipan Tribune*.

Joy added that Thea's first tournament was in We Lifou in the Provincial Islands of the French territory and her daughter competed in a Davis Cup-like event.

The tournament was called "Games Interprovinciaux" and featured qualifiers who represented New Caledonia's three provinces namely the North of the Province Tennis, South of the Province Tennis, and the Provincial Islands Tennis.

TSUNAMI

From Page 28

ticipants. The second one last Saturday at the south pool of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan was attended by 55 individuals.

Three more sessions are coming up, but registration is now closed, as Tsunami Saipan and the American Red Cross are concern of the participants' safety.

"We stopped registration although we know more people still want to join the lessons because we want to keep the participants safe and at the same time maintain the high quality of the training sessions," Kimura said.

To ensure the safety of participants Kimura said they follow the swimmer-to-instructor ratio strictly. One instructor is allowed to have only five swimmers.

Kimura added that instructors are encouraged to get Water Safety Instructor and Life Saver licenses from American Red Cross.

"We have eight water safety instructors and four life savers certified by the American Red Cross," Kimura said.

The Tsunami Saipan coach added having experts and certified instructors will make it easy for participants to learn the basics of swimming.

Swimming lessons are given by Tsunami Saipan coaches and swimmers. The list include Bobby and Tami Winkfield, Stan Good, Mike Villagomez, Rezne Wong, Cooper Graf, Shin Kimura, Kai Staal, Kensuke, Kensuke and Hiro Kimura, Mina Minami, Marystar Welch, Amanda Johnson, Annie Camacho, and Karen Buettner. Assistant coaches are Kaisei Toda and Ashley Welch.

The last three sessions will be held on Sept. 27 and Oct. 4 and 11.

Participants will be given certification upon completion of the lessons.

Meanwhile, Kimura announced that the first mutual meet between Tsunami Saipan and Saipan Swim Club swimmers will be held next month.

The Tsunami Saipan mentor added he will talk with SSC coach Michael Blasberg next week to finalize the details of the meet.

The mutual meet was supposed to take place early this month, but the low water level at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi forced the suspension of the friendly competition.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Tampa Bay	92	62	.597	_
Boston	91	64	.587	1 1/2
New York	85	71	.545	8
Toronto	83	73	.532	10
Baltimore	67	87	.435	25

Central Division

Chicago	86	69	.555	_
Minnesota	84	72	.538	2 1/2
Cleveland	78	77	.503	8
Detroit	71	83	.461	14 1/2
Kansas City	70	86	.449	16 1/2

West Division

x-Los Angeles	96	59	.619	_
Texas	75	81	.481	21 1/2
Oakland	74	81	.477	22
Seattle	57	98	.368	39

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	88	68	.564	_
New York	86	69	.555	1
Florida	81	74	.523	6
Atlanta	69	87	.442	19
Washington	58	98	.372	30

Central Division

x-Chicago	94	60	.610	_
Milwaukee	85	71	.545	10
Houston	82	73	.529	12
St. Louis	80	75	.516	14
Cincinnati	72	83	.465	22
Pittsburgh	65	91	.417	30

West Division

Los Angeles	81	75	.519	_
Arizona	78	77	.503	2
Colorado	71	85	.455	10
San Francisco	70	86	.449	11
San Diego	61	95	.391	20

x-clinched division
y-clinched playoff spot

Yesterday's Games

Milwaukee 8, Cincinnati 1
Atlanta 7, N.Y. Mets 6
Houston 6, Pittsburgh 2
San Diego 6, Washington 2
Chicago Cubs 5, St. Louis 1
Arizona 13, Colorado 4
Philadelphia 5, Florida 2
San Francisco 1, L.A. Dodgers 0, 11 innings
Cleveland 10, Detroit 5
Boston 3, Toronto 0
Minnesota 4, Tampa Bay 1
Chicago White Sox 3, Kansas City 0
L.A. Angels 7, Texas 3
Oakland 5, Seattle 3
N.Y. Yankees 7, Baltimore 3

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	3	0	0	1.000	78	49
New England	2	1	0	.667	49	58
N.Y. Jets	1	1	0	.500	30	33
Miami	1	2	0	.333	62	64

South

Tennessee	3	0	0	1.000	72	29
Jacksonville	1	2	0	.333	49	58
Indianapolis	1	2	0	.333	52	67
Houston	0	2	0	.000	29	69

North

Baltimore	2	0	0	1.000	45	20
Pittsburgh	2	1	0	.667	54	38
Cincinnati	0	3	0	.000	40	67
Cleveland	0	3	0	.000	26	66

West

Denver	3	0	0	1.000	114	84
Oakland	1	2	0	.333	60	73
San Diego	0	2	0	.000	62	65
Kansas City	0	3	0	.000	32	78

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Dallas	3	0	0	1.000	96	63
N.Y. Giants	3	0	0	1.000	83	43
Washington	2	1	0	.667	60	57
Philadelphia	2	1	0	.667	90	50

South

Tampa Bay	2	1	0	.667	71	57
Atlanta	2	1	0	.667	81	59
Carolina	2	1	0	.667	56	61
New Orleans	1	2	0	.333	80	83

North

Green Bay	2	1	0	.667	88	71
Minnesota	1	2	0	.333	54	52
Chicago	1	2	0	.333	70	60
Detroit	0	3	0	.000	59	113

West

Arizona	2	1	0	.667	71	47
San Francisco	2	1	0	.667	77	66
Seattle	1	2	0	.333	77	80
St. Louis	0	3	0	.000	29	116

Yesterday's Games

Tennessee 31, Houston 12
Buffalo 24, Oakland 23
Minnesota 20, Carolina 10
Atlanta 38, Kansas City 14
Tampa Bay 27, Chicago 24, OT
Washington 24, Arizona 17
Miami 38, New England 13
N.Y. Giants 26, Cincinnati 23, OT
Seattle 37, St. Louis 13
San Francisco 31, Detroit 13
Denver 34, New Orleans 32
Baltimore 28, Cleveland 10
Jacksonville 23, Indianapolis 21
Philadelphia 15, Pittsburgh 6
Dallas 27, Green Bay 16

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rites of Passage V contract signing deadline this Friday

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Mixed martial arts fighters for the upcoming Rites of Passage V: Raging Warriors will have only until Friday, Sept. 26, to sign their contracts, Trench Tech Inc. president and promoter Justis "Cuki" Alvarez announced yesterday.

Alvarez said failing to meet the deadline would mean automatic disqualification from the final fight card. He said substitutes will be ready to fill in if there will be slots that are left vacant.

So far, half of the 40 fighters that are included in the 20 pairings have already signed a contract for the event slated this Saturday, Sept. 27, at the Trench Tech Gym in Afetnas.

It will be Marianas Elite's Derrick "Pinchi" Rangamar and Trench Tech's Chris "No Luv" Laayug for the main event while 22 others will be fighting for the first time.

Alvarez said that fight cards are always subject to change in the days leading to the event.

However, he assured that they would have at least 16 to 20 fights on the night of the event.

Alvarez said that on the day of the weigh-ins, which is also on Friday, Sept. 26, between 5pm to 7pm, fighters and their parents are expected to flock to the Trench Tech Gym for confirmation and contract signing.

Tickets are sold at $20 and are available at Hannam Market in Koblerville, Trench Tech Gym in Afetnas, 67Zero Rocksteady Shop in Middle Road, Garapan, and Boarderline Skate Shop in the Joeten Hafa Adai Shopping Complex across DFS Galleria.

Fights will be from 6pm to 11pm at the octagon cage.

In a previous statement, Alvarez said Pacific Xtreme Combat, or PXC, is looking for top talents from the CNMI in various weight classes for upcoming PXC events in Guam and it would be safe to say that representatives from the group will watch results of the event.

"Trench Tech is the only link to making it to 'the big time' and a chance to fight and make big bucks in PXC! Therefore, Rites of Passage is the perfect opportunity and proving grounds to showcase your skills and prove yourself!" he earlier said.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE
Manny Laniyo in this file photo from a previous mixed martial arts event on Saipan. Rites of Passage V: Raging Warriors will be held on Saturday, Sept. 27, at the Trench Tech Gym. in Afetnas.

Guam black belt judge to scout for MMA talents

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu black belt Stephen P. Roberto will be the special guest referee for next Saturday's Rites of Passage V: Raging Warriors at the Trench Tech Gym in Afetnas.

Roberto will not only be the judge but he will also scout for potential mixed martial arts talents on Saipan.

Trench Tech Inc. president and promoter Justis "Cuki" Alvarez, who is also a Brazilian Jiu Jitsu fighter, confirmed Roberto is a black belt in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu or BJJ—the first ever Chamorro to hold the distinction.

He is set to arrive on Saturday morning as an ambassador of MMA and BJJ.

Roberto, who is a native son of Guam, is the only black belt of Chamorro heritage.

He teaches and trains fellow Chamorro islanders in the art of Jiu Jitsu.

Roberto is with Team Purebred and is connected with the Lloyd Irvin BJJ Academy.

He recently acquired his black belt after 12 years of dedicated training under the tutorship and guidance of Enson Inoue, the owner and founder of Purebred International, and Mike Fowler, the disciple and world renowned BJJ black belt practitioner from the Lloyd Irvin Academy.

Alvarez said Roberto is excited to meet MMA fighters on Saipan.

A total of 20 fights will be showcased in the Rites of Passage V: Raging Warriors, an event that caters mainly to first-time fighters and/or those who have fought and want to redeem their performance in the octagon cage.

It is the "proving ground" for young up and coming fighters looking to earn their "Rites to Pass" onto the next level.

The main event will be between Derrick "Pinchi" Rangamar of Marianas Elite and Chris "No Luv" Laayug of Trench Tech.

Opening of PILCOWA/SMB cage league moved to Oct 12

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left, PILCOWA board of director Jun Concilliado, Pacific Trading marketing manager Mike Babauta, PILCOWA sports coordinator Pando Muleta, and PILCOWA president Ronnie Doca pose for a photo inside the Pacific Trading Co. office in Puerto Rico.

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

The opening ceremony for the first basketball league organized by the Pilpino Contract Workers Association has been moved from Sept. 28 to Oct. 12.

PILCOWA sports coordinator Pando Muleta said postponement of the opening date was made to allow teams to prepare their uniforms as well as give others the chance to complete their team rosters.

As of yesterday noon, a total of seven teams have confirmed their participation in the inaugural league. Three others have signified their intention but have yet to submit their roster of players.

Each team must have 14 players with an entry fee of $500 per team.

Muleta said they want to make the opening ceremony as colorful as possible. There will be a parade of participating teams but they have yet to discuss the route.

There will also be awards for the Best Uniform and Best Muse.

In a related development, an organizational meeting for the PILCOWA caging is set at 6pm today at the pavilion across the CIC Centre along Beach Road.

Muleta said all team managers and coaches or representatives of teams must attend the meeting.

To be discussed will be tournament format, entrance fee, roster, uniforms, and issues related to the opening ceremony.

Meanwhile, the tournament will be officially known as the First PILCOWA/SMB Basketball League.'

This after Pacific Trading Co., sole distributor of San Miguel Beer products in the CNMI, agreed to be the major sponsor of the league.

Pacific Trading Co. marketing manager Mike Babauta met with league organizers and PILCOWA officers recently to finalize the agreement.

Oakies vs. No. 4 in opener of Miller Lite beach volleyball

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

MHS Oakies will square off with Team No. 4 in the opening game tonight of the 2008 Miller Lite 4-Person Beach Volleyball Fall League at the Pacific Islands Club.

The league will kick off at 5:30pm. A total of 11 teams are participating in the two-month long event, organized annually by PIC since 1998.

Three other games will follow after the Oakies vs. No. 4 season opener.

Off Twice will meet MHS Peers in the second game at 6:30pm, while Team No. 2 will face Team No. 7 in the third game at 7:30pm.

Capping the opening night of hard action will be the match-up between Team. No. 3 and Enyophase at 8:30pm.

In the second playing date on Thursday Sept. 25, No. 3 takes on MHS Peers, MHS 67 Doh-Fins vs. Karakuchi, No. 2 vs. MHS Oakies, and Enyophace vs. No. 7.

Games on Sept. 30 will be Karakuchi vs. MHS Serves UP!, MHS 67 Doh-Fins vs. MHS Oakies, No. 4 vs. No. 7, and Off Twice vs. Enyophace.

As of yesterday afternoon, five of the 11 teams that are participating this year have yet to give their team monikers.

PIC Saipan sports manager Lindsey Sosovec said she expects that the teams will submit their team monikers within the week because sometimes teammates like to brainstorm about their monikers.

The teams will play in a single-round robin elimination to determine the seeding of the Top 8 that will advance into the playoffs with the No. 1 finisher to meet No. 8, No. 2 vs. No. 7, No. 3 vs. No. 6, and No. 4 vs. No. 5.

This year's major sponsors are PIC, Pacific Trading Co., Miller Lite, Propel, and Pepsi.

For more information about the 2008 Miller Lite 4-Person Beach Volleyball Fall League, call Sosovec at 235-6231 (extension 5147).

Last year, Raw Juice scored an anticlimactic 15-6 win over Bakkery to end the top seed's 13-game winning run and in the process win the championship of the 2007 Miller Lite 4-Person Beach Volleyball Fall League at the Pacific Islands Club sand courts.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE
Kimiko Hasegawa serves in this file photo from the Miller Lite Four-Person Co-ed Beach Volleyball League at the Pacific Islands Club.

Rites of Passage V contract signing deadline this Friday

Mixed martial arts fighters for the upcoming Rites of Passage V: Raging Warriors will have only until Friday, Sept. 26, to sign their contracts, Trench Tech Inc. president and promoter Justis "Cuki" Alvarez announced yesterday. 27

Saipan Tribune
Sports

NY staves off elimination in nostalgic Yankee Stadium farewell

Mariano Rivera finished what Babe Ruth started 85 years ago, and New York bid farewell to Yankee Stadium with a 7-3 victory over the Baltimore Orioles on Sunday that prevented postseason elimination–at least for a day. 24

US wins Ryder Cup for first time since '99

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP GOLF WRITER

Boo Weekley traded his beloved beer for champagne, filling flutes for fans who turned the familiar European chant "Ole, Ole, Ole, Ole" into "No way, no way."

Phil Mickelson draped an American flag over his shoulders as he sauntered up the 18th fairway. U.S. captain Paul Azinger sprinted up the stairs to the clubhouse balcony at Valhalla, grabbed the biggest bottle of bubbly he could find and joined a party that plays out every two years at the Ryder Cup.

Finally, it was the Americans' turn to celebrate.

"I never tried to think about what the outcome might be, and I started to dream about it a little bit today, thinking this could actually happen," Azinger said with the shiny gold trophy at his side. "It just feels great to have it back on our soil."

The Americans didn't need a miracle putt or an amazing comeback like their last victory in 1999.

They didn't even need Tiger Woods.

Strong as a team, equally mighty on their own, they rode the emotion of a flag-wav-

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Members of the USA team hold up the Ryder Cup trophy after winning the golf tournament at the Valhalla Golf Club, in Louisville, Ky., Sunday, Sept. 21, 2008. AP

Change of schedule a plus for NMI junior cagebelles

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI Women's Junior Nationals coach Elias Rangamar welcomed the changes in schedule of games in the 7th FIBA Oceania Youth Tournament saying facing powerhouse Australia last gave them a sigh of relief.

"When you have a very young team and players who will be competing in a tough tournament like the FIBA youth caging for the first time, you don't want to play the defending champion in your first game," Rangamar said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

"It scares your players, knowing how tough their opponents will be. Somehow, they get demoralized and get cold feet in their first game," he added.

In the initial schedule released by FIBA Oceania, the CNMI cagebelles were set to face Australia's Opals, but the new schedule will now pit the Commonwealth bets against Tahiti in their debut game this Sunday.

"The game against Tahiti will not make them feel all those butterflies in their stomachs because Tahiti is not as tough as Australia or Fiji," Rangamar said.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Lia Rangamar drives to the baseline during a game in the Rotary caging. Rangamar plays for the G-Stars, but will be leaving the team this week as she joins the CNMI Women's Junior Nationals in Guam for the 7th FIBA Oceania Youth Tournament.

Australia won the 2006 edition of the youth caging,

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Thea returns after semis stints in French territory

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI junior netter Thea Minor will return to Saipan today after giving a good account of herself in tournaments in New Caledonia.

Minor, who stayed in the French territory for about three weeks, advanced to the semifinals of two tournaments in Noumea and also suited up for the Pacific Oceania Team that played against three regional teams in New Caledonia.

The 12-year-old CNMI junior netter played in the 13-14 and 17-18 age groups of the Open Jeunes 208 at TC Olympique court in the capital city of New Caledonia.

Minor was seeded eighth in the 13-14 age group division and routed Yaelle Honakoko in the first round, 6-0, 6-2.

She moved into the quarterfinals after beating Lucila Pattoua, 6-1, 6-4. Minor's next match was a tough one, as she needed three sets to pull off a 6-3, 4-6, 6-2 triumph against Trimari Assya.

The three-set win moved Minor to the semifinals against fellow Pacific Oceania player Annie Shannon, who won against Eva Brocard in the quarterfinals, 6-0, 6-4.

The first set of the Minor-Shannon semis duel was a neck-and-neck battle with Fiji's Shannon escaping with a 7-5 victory. After playing an ex-

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Tsunami keeps safe, high quality swim lessons

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan has stopped accepting participants for its fall season swim lessons despite receiving more inquiries from interested parties.

Tsunami Saipan head coach Hiro Kimura said the first session of the swim lessons they are conducting in cooperation with the American Red Cross CNMI Chapter drew 51 par-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Tsunami Saipan swimmers prepare for their daily training session at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi. On weekends, Tsunami Saipan swimmers conduct American Red Cross lessons for beginners at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.